THE LITERARY DIGEST

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TOPICS - OF - THE - DAY

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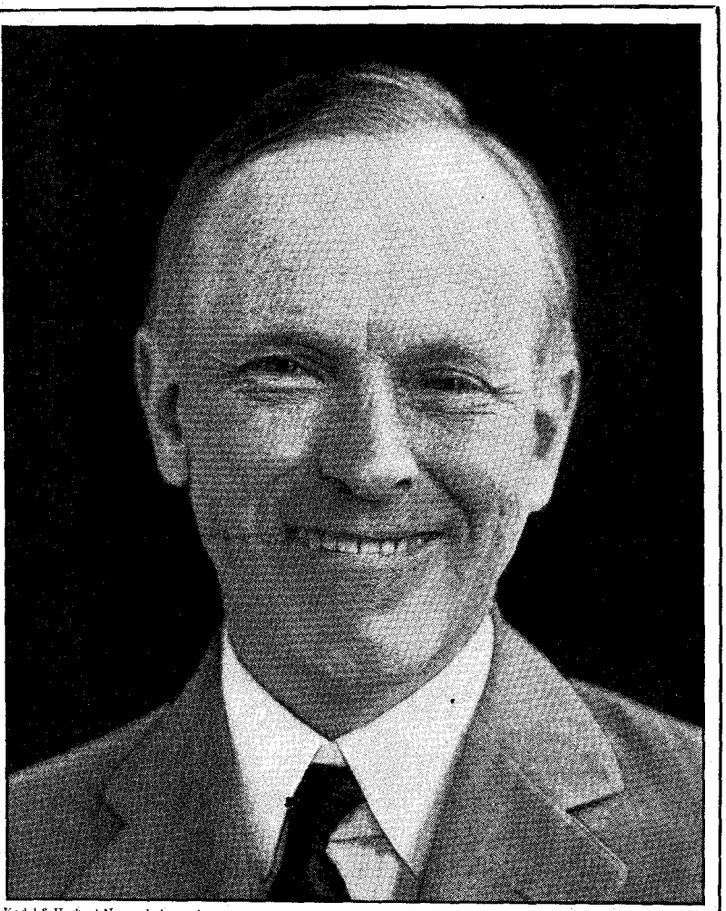
"COOLIDGE AND COMMON SENSE"

"A GOVERNMENT OF COMMON SENSE"—in this phrase of his speech of acceptance, President Coolidge, according to editors and correspondents in great numbers, furnished his own campaign slogan. The words, "common sense," featured all the newspaper headlines the day after the President formally accepted the Republican nomination. Mr. Coolidge's assertion that "common sense" is the basis of his political creed, came as the peroration of his long speech. According to one correspondent who was present, it "caught the crowd and was the biggest hit of the speech; we will hear a lot of that for the next ten weeks." Certainly we will hear a lot of it from the Republican papers, judging by the way they reiterate and amplify the "common sense" keynote and explain how the country needs and the people really want "the Coolidge brand of common sense." There are even Democratic editors who agree that this quality of common sense is President Coolidge's greatest asset, altho some Democrats of the press argue that there are finer and nobler qualities than this, qualities no less necessary for public leadership; and others like to hint that a cloak of common sense should not be permitted to hide the uncommon sins of the Republican party.



Kadel & Herbert News photograph

PRESIDENT COOLIDGE S CAMPAIGN SMILE

But we can hardly discuss the political praise of, and attacks on, Mr. Coolidge's speech with complete understanding, without recalling the most important things he said on the evening of August 14, at Washington, D. C. The President began his speech, after informing the notification committee that he would accept the nomination, by pointing out how conditions have improved in this country since the Republicans took charge of the Government in March, 1921. He turned to Secretary Hughes, just back from his European trip, with the remark, "our foreign relations have been handled with a technical skill and broad statesmanship which has seldom if ever been surpassed." And he concluded a survey of our fiscal affairs with the declaration that "the finances of this nation have been managed with a genius and a success unmatched since the days of Hamilton." On the subject of Japanese immigration Mr. Coolidge said:

"I should have preferred to continue the policy of Japanese exclusion by some method less likely to offend the sensibilities of the Japanese people. I did what I could to minimize any harm that might arise. But the law has been passed and approved, and the incident is closed. We must seek by some means besides immigration to demonstrate the friendship and respect which we feel for the Japanese nation."

Of the Washington Conference, President Coolidge said that no such gathering "ever did more to promote the peace of the world," and he is "perfectly sure that none ever did so much to reduce the cost of government." According to the President, "a policy was adopted which was more than revolutionary. It was sublime." In reply to Democrats and others insisting that the chief campaign issue "is honest government," President Coolidge said:

"In all my studies of political history I can not recall an Administration which was desirous of a dishonest and corrupt government that, for the purpose of checking extravagance, ever undertook to introduce a budget system, to cut down taxes, to purge the pay-rolls, to make enormous reductions in the public

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debt, and to lay firmer foundations for the peace of the world. That is not the way of dishonesty. . . . The Government is sound. But individuals charged with wrongdoing are being prosecuted. The people of this country hate corruption. They know my position. They know the law will be enforced. . . . The American Government must be clean."

"Peace" is the one word which, in President Coolidge's opinion, best describes our foreign policy. In promoting peace—

"We have been unwilling to surrender our independence. We have refused to ratify the covenant of the League of Nations. But we have cooperated with it to suppress the narcotic trade and promote public health. We have every desire to help; but the time, the place, and the method must be left to our own determination. . . .

"As peace means fundamentally a reign of law, we propose to become a member of the Permanent Court of International Justice. Such action would do much to indicate our determination to restrain the rule of force and solidify and sustain the rule of reason among nations."

The Administration's course in connection with the Dawes plan is described as "the only way we could help." When the plan is in operation, the President intends to propose another conference to limit armaments and codify international law.

President Coolidge emphasizes at some length his devotion to the Republican policy of tariff protection. "I confess," he says, "that my inheritance and personal experience have bred in me a keen interest in the welfare of agriculture." To the end that agriculture can be put on "a basis of economic equality with other industries," President Coolidge proposes "to appoint a committee to investigate and report measures to the Congress in December." He argues at some length to show how every citizen profits by economy in government and reduced taxes. "When the Government effects a new economy it grants everybody a life pension with which to raise the standard of existence." Taxes, we are told, "take from every one a part of his earnings, and force every one to work a certain part of his time for the Government." President Coolidge says he favors economy, "that the taxes of everybody may be reduced." He wants "further tax-reduction." He sums up his argument against excessively high tax-rates on large incomes with the sentence: "Whatever cry the demagog may make about his ability to tax the rich, at the end of the year it will always be found that the people as a whole have paid the taxes." The Coolidge policy on Prohibition is stated thus:

"Our country has adopted Prohibition and provided by legislation for its enforcement. It is the duty of the citizen to observe the law, and the duty of the Executive to enforce. I propose to do my duty as best I can."

Then, at the end of his speech the President states his political philosophy of "common sense" in these words:

"We are likely to hear a great deal of discussion about liberal thought and progressive action. It is well for the country to have liberality in thought and progress in action, but its greatest asset is common sense. In the commonplace things of life lies the strength of the nation. It is not in brilliant conceptions and strokes of genius that we shall find the chief reliance of our country, but in the home, in the school, and in religion. . . . The people know the difference between pretense and reality. They want to be told the truth. They want to be trusted. They want a chance to work out their own material and spiritual salvation. The people want a government of common sense."

The last sentence quoted might well be accepted as the keynote of the Coolidge campaign for reelection, say the Minneapolis *Tribune* (Rep.) and Brooklyn *Times* (Rep.). "As President Harding's watchword in 1920 was 'normalcy,' so President Coolidge's promises to be 'common sense,'" we read in the Wichita *Beacon* (Rep.). The appeal to common sense, declares the Tacoma *Ledger* (Rep.), "is the Coolidge answer to the independent candidacy of Republican Senator La Follette and Democratic Senator Wheeler." Mr. Coolidge, declares the Portland (Me.) *Express* (Rep.), "is the nation's chief apostle of common sense in governing." "Equally annoying to the demagog and satisfying to the ordinary citizen," observes the San Diego *Union* (Rep.), "are Mr. Coolidge's remarks on business and common sense." "A government of common sense and justice is what the people want," according to the Pittsburgh *Gazette Times* (Rep.). And "a majority of Americans," the New York *Sun* (Rep.) thinks, "believe they are getting that kind of government now." The Coolidge doctrine of common sense is no less heartily accepted by Republican papers all over the country, including the New York *Herald Tribune*, Jersey City *Journal*, Wilmington (Del.) *News*, Buffalo *Evening News*, Chicago *Tribune*, Minneapolis *Tribune*, St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, Minneapolis *Journal*, Kansas City *Star*, and Salt Lake City *Tribune*. The Chicago *Evening Post* (Ind. Rep.) finds "ringing all through" the Coolidge speech: "Common sense with sympathy, understanding and courage, consecrated to the service of the people." Farther west the Denver *Rocky Mountain News* explains:

"The people that Mr. Coolidge is speaking to and looking to number three-fourths of the population of the Republic. He is speaking to them in their own Lincolnian language. They will elect him; they know what is in his heart; there is a bond of understanding and appreciation between this great body of citizenship and the Chief Executive at the White House. Common sense is going to win a substantial victory in November and a common-sense Administration is to be in power."

The President's speech of acceptance "deserves a place with the great State papers of America," in the opinion of the Los Angeles *Express* (Rep.). While their language may not be quite so strong, the speech is no less acceptable to such papers on the Republican side of the campaign as the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, Hartford *Courant*, Manchester *Union*, Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle*, Buffalo *Express*, Washington *Post*, Boston *Herald*, Detroit *Free Press*, Grand Rapids *Herald*, Topeka *Capital*, Salt Lake City *Deseret News*, Portland *Oregonian*, Los Angeles *Times*, St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*. From the Columbus *Ohio State Journal* (Rep.) comes this tribute to President Coolidge, called forth by his acceptance speech:

"In his own way he has purified the public service and has created an atmosphere of clean living and high thinking within the White House sphere of influence which is distinctly felt in Washington and gratefully sensed throughout the country."

In the opinion of William Allen White, of the Emporia *Gazette* (Ind. Rep.), the message is that of "a rather simple-hearted, sturdily honest, and consistently courageous man, whose courage comes more from the fact that he is surrounded by his friends, than from any inherent daring in his soul." This Kansas authority on politics further remarks that the "Coolidge faith in the deep intelligence of the American people should move mountains, but whether it will carry the election remains to be seen."

But what do the Democrats think of "Coolidge and common sense"? The New Orleans *Times-Picayune* (Dem.) admits that President Coolidge's "best personal asset in this campaign" is the fact that he is "widely credited with possession of common sense." As far as the preachment of economy, thrift, and common sense goes, the Cleveland *Plain Dealer* (Dem.) concedes, "it is sound, good politics, as well as good Calvinism."

But the Baltimore *Sun* (Ind. Dem.) looks upon the President's address as "an artful appeal to the materialistic instincts of the voters." Another Davis supporter, the Omaha *World-Herald* (Ind.) finds the dollar-mark liberally bespangled over the printed text of the Coolidge address, and observes:

"Mr. Davis lifted up his eyes unto the hills. The President fixes his on the cash register and never lets them stray far from it."

More caustically the Providence *News* (Dem.) remarks that:

"The greatest defect in the national administration of our Government in the last four years has not been lack of common

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sense but lack of common decency. There was common sense enough and to spare, but morally and spiritually the Republican régime is bankrupt."

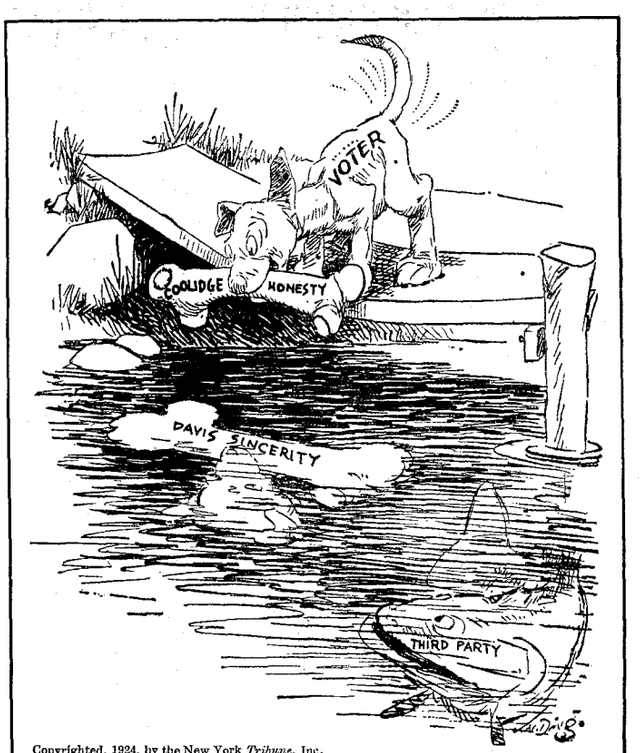
That the Coolidge speech of acceptance is a weak, uninspired and uninspiring document is the contention of the Democratic Pittsburgh *Post*, Richmond *Times-Dispatch*, Charleston *News and Courier*, Columbia *State*, Louisville *Courier-Journal*, Louisville *Post* and *Dallas News*. The Louisville *Times* (Dem.) calls it "limp and inadequate." President Coolidge's "first performance as 'his own platform'" gives the Norfolk *Virginian-Pilot* (Dem.) "the impression of a bewildered conservative caught in an economic, political and moral maze largely of others' making and striving ineffectually to cut his way out into the clear with the only tools that he knows how to handle—the dry legalisms of technical defense, the stereotyped moral aphorisms of small-caliber statesmen the world over, and the tribal mottoes of the Old Guard."

To a number of Democratic editors it seems that President Coolidge is trying to minimize the disclosures of the oil investigation. The Atlanta *Constitution* does not question Mr. Coolidge's honesty, but says "the record of the Republican administration is too vulnerable for argument," and the Birmingham *Age-Herald* and Mobile *Register* are of the same opinion. The New York *World* says: "Mr. Coolidge indignantly denies that he committed the crime of 'desiring corruption,' with which no one has charged him, and under the cloud of this indignation omits any comment on the lesser but none-the-less important charges of negligence, indifference, obstruction and indecision." And we read in the Little Rock (Ark.) *Gazette:*

"Mr. Coolidge's attempt to hurry past that which will be the biggest issue in the campaign is almost amusing. Mr. Davis with ringing sentences arraigns the Republican party for having shaken public confidence to its very foundations by the corruption that flourished under it; and Mr. Coolidge answers that the Washington Conference was important. Mr. Davis charges the Republican party with responsibility for more widespread corruption than any that this generation of Americans has been called upon to witness, and Mr. Coolidge replies that prices are improving."

After characterizing Mr. Coolidge's speech as "a plea of confession and avoidance" as far as the oil scandals are concerned,

"WONDER IF HE CAN DO ANYTHING FOR ME?"
—De Mar in the Philadelphia *Record*.



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REMEMBER THE POOR DOG THAT TRIED TOO HARD TO BETTER HIMSELF?
—Darling in the New York *Herald Tribune*.

the Raleigh *News and Observer* (Dem.) declares that he "makes even a sorrier showing as to foreign policies":

"His party by a policy of inaction and scuttle is responsible for bad conditions abroad and bankruptcy of American farmers. Whatever good has come from American attempts to heal the running sores of Europe has come from individuals and in spite of the lack of policy by the Washington Government. And yet, when Dawes, Republican, and Young, Democrat, contrary to Republican policy, try to redeem America's shameful desertion, President Coolidge steps to the front to claim whatever good may come from unofficial patriotic efforts."

Similar criticism appears in the columns of the Democratic Springfield (Ill.) *State Register* and the Charleston (W. Va.) *Gazette*. It seems to the New York *Times* (Dem.) that President Coolidge's "Yankee humor must have deserted him" when he wrote that "we have refused to ratify the covenant of the League of Nations, but we have cooperated with it to suppress the narcotic trade and to promote public health."

President Coolidge is sharply criticized by the Democratic Philadelphia *Record* and Chicago *Journal* on the ground that he is unfair in giving the Republican party credit for the improvement since 1921, and in blaming the Wilson Administration for war-time extravagance.

In the agricultural Northwest the Helena (Mont.) *Independent* (Dem.) tells us that the "Northwest farmer will be disappointed when he reads that the President only approves the idea of appointing another investigating committee to make suggestions to Congress as to farm measures."

Finally, to quote from a La Follette supporter, we find *The Nation* (New York), commenting as follows on Mr. Coolidge's utterances on August 14. It says:

"They are the words of a pigmy at a great task. They are the record of a mind utterly incapable of understanding many of the problems that confront it. They are the inconsistent and inconsequent flounderings of a man who deserves all pity. Fate has pitchforked him into a place beyond his intellectual power. A merciful defeat is what his best friends should wish for him. Mr. Coolidge has stood pat. He and his party are without that vision for lack of which a party perishes."

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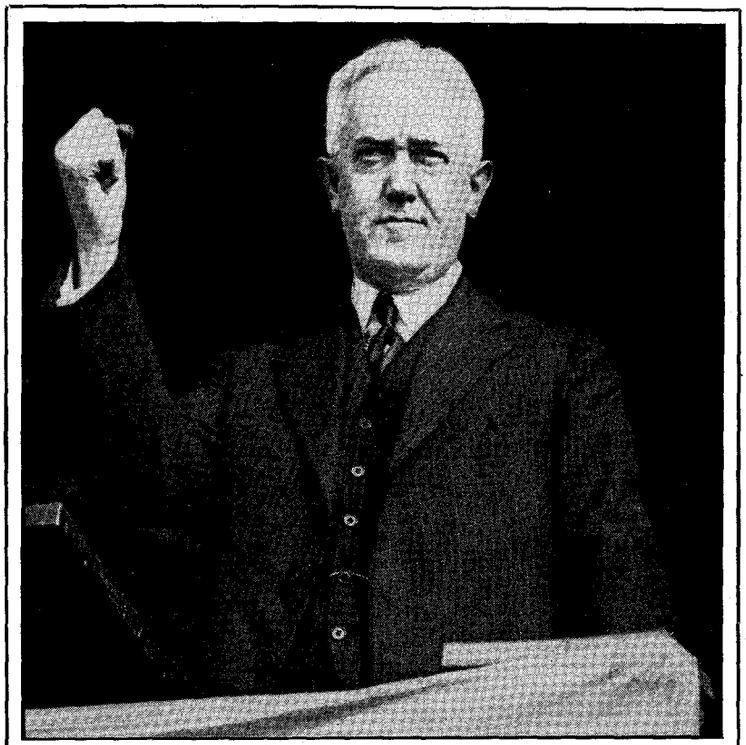
MR. DAVIS'S DENUNCIATION OF REPUBLICAN RULE

IT IS "WAR TO THE KNIFE" against the Republican Old Guard's "sawdust candidate," cries an enthusiastic Southern Democratic editor; "Mr. Davis can hit, and hit hard," observes the friendly *Sun* (Ind.), of Baltimore, and the Republican *Ohio State Journal*, of Columbus, admits that John W. Davis "is a fighter, and a dangerous one"; the "Republican campaign managers will at least know they have been in a fight before this thing is over." Such is the comment called forth by John W. Davis's speech formally accepting the Democratic Presidential nomination, an utterance in which as many as eleven sentences begin with the sharp words "I charge," or "I indict."

The traditional scope of such a speech is well known. It is a preliminary survey, a general review, definite in some things, and indefinite in others, interpreting, elaborating, and endorsing without too much detail the party platform, and emphasizing some of the main lines of the Democratic attack upon the Republican adversary. It is the opening gun which has been awaited as the real start of the 1924 Presidential contest. With orderly and logical precision, Mr. Davis presents what the Mobile *Register* (Dem.) characterizes as "an able brief for Democracy before the bar of American public opinion." First comes the arraignment of the present Administration; second comes the constructive policies of his own party as Mr. Davis sees them.



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"I CHARGE THE REPUBLICAN PARTY WITH CORRUPTION"

John W. Davis, as he appeared when denouncing the Harding-Coolidge Administration in his speech of acceptance at Clarksburg, West Virginia, on August 11.

Briefly, Mr. Davis charges corruption in high places; favoritism in tariff legislation; division and discord in Republican party councils; impotence in government. He demands administrative honesty; a downward revision of the tariff; a further reduction of taxation; American participation in the League of Nations when the people are "ready for the step"; justice for labor, wounded war veterans, and the farmer; and the enforcement of all laws, including the Prohibition Law. He also denounces bigotry, intolerance, and race prejudice, without, however, naming any specific organization.

"Mr. Davis, being an excellent lawyer, has made the most of a bad case," remarks the Republican Brooklyn *Times*. "But he has not gained much by his speech. He has side-stept the Klan issue, and offended the public when he accused Calvin Coolidge of responsibility for government evils." In his indictment, "the most severe and biting any political party has undergone in a generation," according to one editor, Mr. Davis said in part:

"I charge the Republican party with corruption in administration; with favoritism to privileged classes in legislation. I charge it also with division in council and impotence in action. . . .

"In the passage of the Fordney-McCumber tariff act, imposing the highest rates and duties in the tariff history of the nation, there was an unblushing return to the evil days of rewarding party support and political contributions with legislative favors. For every dollar that this statute has drawn into the Treasury of the United States it has diverted five from the pocket of the consumer into the pockets of the favored few.

"I indict the Republican party in its organized capacity for having shaken public confidence to its very foundations. I charge it with having exhibited deeper and more wide-spread corruption than any that this generation of Americans has been called upon to witness. I charge it with complacency in the face of that corruption and with ill-will toward the efforts of honest men to expose it.

"I charge it with indifference to world peace and with timidity in the conduct of our foreign affairs. I charge it with disorganization, division and incoherence, and on the record I shall ask the voters throughout the length and breadth of this land to pass judgment.

"Need I dwell on the picture that the last twelve months present! On one side the Executive, on the other the members of his party in both houses of Congress, seeking different aims; entertaining different views; advocating different measures.

"Whenever before did a party in control of the Executive and of a majority in both Houses of Congress present so pitiable a spectacle of discord and division? By what right can a political organization so led and so disciplined appeal for a further lease of power? An Executive who can not or will not lead, a Congress that can not and will not follow—how can good government exist under such conditions?

"The Washington conference alone aside, and that of more than doubtful value, what single contribution has the United States of America, as an organized nation among nations, made to world peace in the last four years?

"Individual Americans have gone abroad, but they went without the blessing of their Government. 'Unofficial observers' have appeared at international conferences where America, if present at all, should have been present as an equal among equals.

"We must face the humiliating fact that we have a Government that does not dare to speak its mind beyond the three-mile limit."

Turning to an interpretation and elaboration of the Democratic platform, Mr. Davis goes on:

"For no reason that is apparent to me the question has been asked, as perhaps it will continue to be asked until it has been definitely answered, what views I hold concerning the enforcement of the Eighteenth Amendment and the statutes passed to put it into effect. Why the question; is it not the law?

"An administrative officer is no more entitled to choose what statutes he will or will not enforce than is a citizen to choose what laws he will or will not obey.

"Believing that no people are truly free who are unjustly taxed, we promise to the people of America not only revision and reform, but a further reduction in the taxes that weigh them down and sap the vigor of their productive energy.

"To the farmers of the United States also we promise not

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patronage but such laws and such administration of the laws as will enable them to prosper in their own right. It is quite as important to the railroads that the farmer should prosper as it is to the farmer that the railroads should be adequately paid for the service that they render.

"We do not and we can not accept the dictum unauthorized by any expression of popular will that the League of Nations is a closed incident so far as we are concerned. From the day when the proposal was first put forward I believed that American duty and American interests alike demanded our joining, as a free and equal people, the other free peoples of the world in this enterprise. Nothing that has since occurred has shaken me in that belief. . . . Neither have I at any time believed, nor do I now believe, that the entrance of America into the League can occur, will occur or should occur, until the common judgment of the American people is ready for the step. We waited for this judgment to ripen in order that we might enter the war. I am content, if need be, to wait until it speaks for the agencies of peace.

"We have taken occasion to reaffirm our belief in the constitutional guaranties of religious freedom, and to deplore and condemn any effort, from whatever source, to arouse racial or religious dissension in this country. Such a declaration every right-thinking American must endorse.

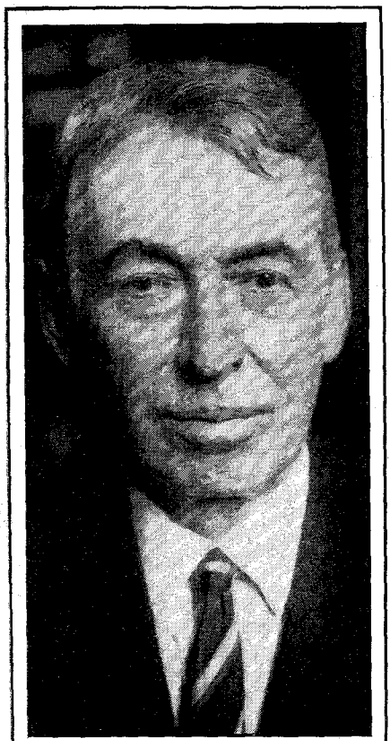
"It is the solemn duty of every believer in American institutions to oppose any challenge of this sacred doctrine, organized or unorganized, under whatever name or in whatever character it may appear.

"No selection to be made by me will be dictated, inspired, or influenced by the race or creed of the appointee.

"We shall conserve all the natural resources of the country and prevent the hand of monopoly from closing on them and on our water-powers, so that our children after us shall find this still a fair land to dwell within.

"The right of labor to an adequate wage earned under healthful conditions, the right to organize in order to obtain it and the right to bargain for it collectively, through agents and representatives of its own choosing, have been established after many years of weary struggle. These rights are conceded now by all fair-minded men. They must not be impaired either by injunction or by any other device.

"The Democratic party, however, goes a step beyond this. Its attitude has been well described as one inspired neither by deference on the one hand nor by patronage on the other, but by a sincere desire to make labor part of the grand council of the nation."



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MR. DAVIS'S CAMPAIGN MANAGER

Clem Shaver, of West Virginia, the new chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

That the first part of the Davis speech is a severe indictment is generally agreed, but an indictment, points out the New York *Daily News* (Ind.), "is merely an accusation that carries with it the presumption of innocence of the accused until the contrary is shown by competent proof." "No better speech of acceptance was ever delivered," writes Clinton W. Gilbert, Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*, an independent paper with Republican leanings; "but the course of this campaign will flow on, little affected by what Mr. Davis said at Clarksburg." To the San Francisco *Bulletin* (Ind.), "the speech is charming, rather than convincing." Or, as the independent Seattle *Times* puts it: "The address has plenty of polish, but no punch." Moreover, adds this Pacific coast paper, "it takes a skilful advocate to blame President Coolidge for the presence of blocs in Congress, when Democratic Senators and Representatives made common cause with those blocs throughout the last session of Congress." La Follette campaign aides in the East also believe the Democratic standard-bearer played into the hands of the so-called third party by his "vague" reference to the farmer and his failure to name the Ku Klux Klan, which Senator La Follette specifically denounces. As for Mr. Davis's assertion that there was no taint of dishonesty or corruption attached to any public officer during the last Democratic Administration, the Buffalo *Express* (Ind. Rep.) remarks: "Mr. Davis was himself Solicitor-General of the United States when the Hughes report exposing war scandals and recommending certain prosecutions was made. Those prosecutions were never undertaken." Furthermore, says D. J. Meserole, of the La Follette forces, in a New York interview:

"Has Mr. Davis never heard of the sickening airplane scandals in which hundreds of millions of dollars of the public's money was thrown to the profiteering wolves? Has he never heard of remarkable transactions conducted by the office of the Alien Property Custodian under the Wilson régime, through which deserving Democrats acquired huge properties for a song? Has he never read the list of great war properties belonging to the people knocked down to favored bidders at ridiculous prices by Democratic administrators? Has he never studied that shameful list of high Democratic place-holders who jumped from public office straight into the arms of Doheny?"

Labor leaders, according to the Washington correspondent of the New York *World*, see in the Davis address an ineffective effort to apologize for the Democratic platform, which has been branded as "unacceptable." But it is when Mr. Davis refers to "corruption in high places" that his words "lack sincerity," maintains the Los Angeles *Times* (Ind. Rep.). "This belated attack upon President Coolidge is a little too raw," agrees the New York *Herald Tribune* (Rep.), which goes on:

"Nobody in or out of America doubts or can be made to doubt the honesty of Calvin Coolidge. The President has his defects and his limitations, like every one else. But by tradition and training and long habit he belongs with the straightforward folk of the world."

As the Jersey City *Journal* (Ind. Rep.) avers:

"The country will not hold Coolidge responsible for conditions he did nothing to create and with which he has given ample evidence he has no sympathy. That there have been some sad examples of misfits in office under the Old Guard, undeniable instances, too, of corruption. But President Coolidge can in no way be held accountable for these official shortcomings."

Mr. Davis has no new information about the Fall and Forbes scandals, notes the Syracuse *Post-Standard* (Rep.). "He cites five unworthy public officials," observes the independent Providence *Journal;* "he does not add that every one of the five, convicted or unconvicted, has retired to private life." Besides, adds the Springfield *Republican* (Ind.):

The scandals belong to the Harding régime. The new Cabinet officers appointed by President Coolidge have stainless records and unimpeachable integrity. The moral tone of the Administration has changed decidedly for the better. This fact gives the Republican voters new confidence in their party's leadership and its capacity for further service."

A Democratic paper, the Brooklyn *Citizen*, finds Mr. Davis's declaration on Prohibition "disappointing." In fact, declares Gilbert E. Roe, one of Mr. La Follette's aides:

"Mr. Davis's speech of acceptance shows him to be a clever lawyer and nothing more. It is interesting on account of the

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WHERE THE LIGHT IS NEEDED

—Fitzpatrick in the New York *World*.

"GOSH, IS THAT ALL YOU'VE GOT?"

—Sykes in the Philadelphia *Evening Public Ledger*.

DIVERSE IMPRESSIONS OF THE DAVIS KEYNOTE

ingenuity manifested by Mr. Davis, in attempting to obscure one great weakness of his candidacy, namely, his trust connections. No one objects to Mr. Davis having as clients the Standard Oil Company or the Steel Trust, but at least 99 per cent. of the people of this country do object, and very properly so, to having the attorney of those concerns as President of this country."

Taking up another phase of the Davis speech, the Kansas City *Star* (Ind.) reminds the speaker that "the division within the ranks of the Democratic party is just as pronounced as that in the Republican party."

Far from being knocked out, or even groggy, by these editorial uppercuts, the Democratic press rallies to the defense of Mr. Davis, his acceptance address, and the Democratic party in general. "Mr. Davis has made a great speech, so great and inclusive that the party platform hardly need be consulted during the campaign," asserts the Democratic Richmond *Times-Dispatch*. "It will be hailed as the speech of a man who is eminently qualified in every way to be President of the United States," agrees a Northern paper, the Hartford *Times* (Dem.). Continues the Connecticut paper:

"He did not content himself with vituperation and abuse. But he did make plain the ridiculousness of the idea that the Republican party can hope to avoid responsibility for the acts of inefficient and dishonest men it elevated to office and permitted to carry out their corrupt purposes.

"The nominee held Mr. Coolidge to strict accountability for his own attitude toward the corruption revealed in office and for permitting himself to join in the partizan hue and cry against those who revealed it."

"Mr. Davis's speech shows that he is a fighter as well as a diplomat," according to the Democratic Pittsburgh *Post*, and we find this sentiment echoed in such Democratic papers as the Wheeling *Register*, Louisville *Courier-Journal*, Memphis *Commercial Appeal*, Houston *Post-Dispatch*, Columbia (S. C.) *Record*, and Raleigh *News and Observer*.

"While Mr. Davis did not denounce the Ku Klux Klan by name, no one can read his speech of acceptance without being convinced that Mr. Davis's detestation for the things for which the Klan stands in the public mind is as bitter as that of its bitterest enemies," declares the Cleveland *Plain-Dealer* (Dem.). Finally, maintains the New York *World* (Ind. Dem.) in a series of editorials covering different points in Mr. Davis's Clarksburg utterance, not forgetting Republican criticism of the Democratic standard-bearer's indirect reference to President Coolidge:

"John W. Davis, in his speech of acceptance, has carried the campaign where it should be carried—to Calvin Coolidge, leader of the Republican party, attendant at the Cabinet during the perpetration of these scandals, presiding officer of the Senate during the days when lone Senators were fighting to uncover them, President during the time when the whole rotten mess was finally exposed.

"Nobody accuses Calvin Coolidge of personal corruption, but if the leader of a party is not responsible for corruption in his party, then leadership has no duties and the Presidency is the most curiously irresponsible office on earth. Forbes and Fall and the rest must answer to the courts on criminal charges, but for the general maladministration, incompetence, and worse, of the unindicted Daugherty, Burns, Denby and their satellites, Calvin Coolidge must answer in the name of the Republican party. The question before the American people is how to prevent in the most certain way the repetition of these scandals. There is only one remedy, and that is to hold the party responsible for the acts of its members.

"The people of this country know that these were not the weaknesses of individual men, that Fall, Forbes and Daugherty were not isolated accidents. They were the very inner circle of the Administration.

"The charges of Mr. Davis are not the wild and empty accusations of a demagog. They are the charges of a responsible statesman. They are not the general charges that the 'outs' always make against the 'ins.' They are specific charges documented by indictments or detailed records. They are not the rhetorical outpourings of an inexperienced agitator. They are the considered charges of a man who, as legislator, executive, diplomat, lawyer and business man, has had incomparably broader practical experience than his Republican opponent. No President within memory has been so utterly helpless in the management of his own party. The weakness of Calvin Coolidge has been the final obstacle to a restoration of high standards in public life."

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MR. DAVIS AS A FRIEND OF LABOR

HAS JOHN W. DAVIS, DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE for the Presidency, who won high honors as an Ambassador, stubbed the ambassadorial toe on the rock of labor? Soon after the nomination of Mr. Davis, it will be recalled, he took steps to find out how organized labor regarded his candidacy by formally asking for a personal interview with Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor. "There was not the slightest impropriety in this," observes the independent Newark *News*, but when a conflict of engagements made such an interview impossible, and Mr. Davis thereupon suggested that a set of questions be prepared by the labor leader to bring out his attitude toward the workers, "he did not show quite that diplomatic touch that made him famous, for this will be construed as telling Labor to write its own ticket." Furthermore, declares this paper, which apparently has no political axes to grind, the Democrats, through William B. Wilson, former Secretary of Labor in the Wilson Cabinet, "put themselves into the weakest of tactical positions by an eleventh-hour effort to get the Federation to hold up its endorsement of La Follette until a committee had heard the Davis speech of acceptance."

"The Davis attempt to win the support of Labor and such a refusal as that of Mr. Gompers will have a bad influence on the Davis campaign," avers the independent Troy *Record*. Moreover, it adds: "That Mr. Davis felt it necessary to court favor, and failed, is evidence of a lack of confidence which is a fatal beginning in a political contest," and the Republican Pittsburgh *Gazette Times* is sure "the hinted readiness of Mr. Davis to make concessions for votes of labor will not strengthen confidence in him."

The controversy precipitated by Mr. Wilson, in his capacity as an assistant of the National Democratic Committee, is thus revealed in his communication to Mr. Gompers, requesting him to withhold his endorsement of any candidate for the Presidency until Mr. Davis had made his speech of acceptance. Said Mr. Wilson, in the letter conveying this request:

"I first came in contact with John W. Davis when I was International Secretary of the United Mine Workers of America, and he was a young practising attorney at Clarksburg, West Virginia. Innumerable injunctions were being issued against us by Judge Jackson at the instance of the coal operators of the State. . . . Our people were holding many meetings protesting against the action of the coal operators and the Courts. Large numbers of them were arrested and haled before the local Courts. John W. Davis volunteered his services to defend them. . . ."

In connection with this West Virginia labor trouble, a statement has been widely circulated in the daily press and quoted in THE LITERARY DIGEST to the effect that Mr. Davis once defended Eugene V. Debs. But Mr. Debs has issued a denial, saying that any story to the effect that Mr. Davis ever defended him is "unadulterated fabrication." To return to the narrative given in the Wilson letter:

"During the year 1912, in consultation with Senator Hughes from New Jersey and Congressman Kitchin of North Carolina, and myself, he wrote Sections 6 and 20 of the Clayton Anti-Trust law, approved October 15, 1914. They represent the most progressive and far-reaching legislation enacted by any Government in the history of the world. . . .

"When the eight-hour law for railroad men was passed in 1916, the officials of the railway organizations feared that it would not stand the test of the Supreme Court. That was made evident by the fact that they had declared a strike of the brotherhood to take effect in the early part of 1917. The manner in which John W. Davis prepared and presented the case to the Supreme Court in behalf of the Government resulted in a favorable decision that came just in time to prevent the threatened strike."

Mr. Gompers replied that it would be impossible for the Federation's Executive Committee to withhold its action until after Mr. Davis delivered his speech of acceptance, and commented on the Democratic candidate's labor record as follows:

"You know, of course, that the officers of the American Federation of Labor are fully informed as to all that transpired in connection with the enactment of the Clayton law, especially Sections 6 and 20. We are likewise fully informed as to all who rendered valuable services in that legislation. We must dissent from the conclusions related by you. This dissent is borne out by records and facts readily available. At an opportune time these records and facts will be fully set forth, in none of which does Mr. John W. Davis appear.

"Regarding your statement that it was the Supreme Court decision upholding the Adamson law which prevented a strike on the railroads of this country, and giving Mr. Davis credit for having won that decision and thus preventing the strike, let me recount facts with which you are familiar and which are in direct conflict with the statement in your letter.

"President Wilson appointed a commission of four—President

DECLINED WITHOUT THANKS

—Pease in the Newark *News*.

Daniel Willard of the Baltimore & Ohio, Secretary of the Interior Franklin K. Lane, you and myself—for the purpose of mediating and preventing a strike.

"This commission brought about an agreement between the railroad brotherhoods and the representatives of the railroads, and that agreement was signed in the presence of the commission, of which you and I were members, before the Supreme Court decision was handed down, and consequently before any one had knowledge of what that decision would be. It was this agreement, and not the Supreme Court decision, which prevented the strike.

"It was the machinery of the labor movement, and not the Supreme Court and Mr. Davis, which prevented the threatened strike."

The former member of the Wilson Cabinet, still insisting that the Federation was unfair to the Democratic nominee, again wrote Mr. Gompers, in part, as follows:

"The record maintained by the American Federation of Labor shows that during Mr. Davis's Congressional career he never voted in a single instance unfavorable to labor. Consequently, I have felt that he also was entitled to a clean bill of health in the matter of domestic policies, and as his attitude concerning foreign relations is in accord with that of the American Federation of Labor, Mr. Davis is entitled to the endorsement of labor on that question also.

"As I said in my previous letter, there is no claim that the language of the Clayton Anti-Trust law was that of Mr. Davis, but he adopted it and used his influence to have it written into the

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bill and finally passed. It passed the House of Representatives in the Sixty-second Congress and died in the Senate.

"Mr. Davis had resigned from Congress to accept the position of Solicitor-General before the bill came up for final passage in the Sixty-third Congress, but that does not in any measure detract from the credit due him.

"Your statement relative to the selection by President Wilson of Secretary Lane, Mr. Willard, yourself and myself as a commission to bring about a settlement of the impending railway strike in 1917 is correct, except that you have left out what, to my mind, was an important factor in the situation. . . . . The commission worked with all the vigor and intelligence it possest to bring about an agreement between the two parties, but little progress was made until in some manner it leaked out on Saturday night that the decision of the Supreme Court would be handed down on Monday and would sustain the constitutionality of the eight-hour law."

Not only Democratic papers, such as the Brooklyn *Eagle* and New York *World*, but the Baltimore *Sun* and Omaha *World-Herald*, both independent, agree that Mr. Gompers made a rather sorry showing in his reply to the Wilson letter. In the opinion of *The Sun:*

"The precise part which Mr. Davis had in the writing of the Anti-Trust law and the effect of the Supreme Court decision in preventing a strike are of little importance in determining the question which Mr. Wilson had in mind and which the people of the country want to know about. That question is as to the fairness of Mr. Davis's attitude toward labor and his sympathy with the just claims of labor. That he did assist in writing the Clayton law, that he did argue the case for the Adamson law before the Supreme Court, that he was in sympathy with both of these measures, just as he did voluntarily defend labor organizers in West Virginia at a moment when the prevailing sentiment of the State was very hostile to union labor—these are the essential things, and these Mr. Gompers does not and can not deny."

"The leaders of organized labor, in condemning him without a hearing, have denied Davis a square deal," asserts the Omaha daily. "They have acted because of their political ambition to establish a Labor party, rather than with a view to helping the country to make the best possible choice for President." "Too late Samuel Gompers may awake to the realization that his hand has contributed to boring the hole through which the very elements he fought so long may enter and obtain control of his great organization," we are warned by the independent Chicago *Evening Post.*

What the Democratic Richmond *Times-Dispatch* can not understand is that "in the face of the Wilson letter, the Executive Council of the Federation should rush headlong into a futile endorsement of La Follette, an economically unsound candidate, who has not the remotest chance of being elected." Or, to quote the Democratic Mobile *Register:*

"The Council ignored a prominent Democrat and labor leader almost as completely as if he had been an outsider. For a man who has played a large part in shaping the policies of the American Federation of Labor, this is cavalier treatment. Evidently, the Council and Gompers, who is the monitor and guide of the Federation, had already made up their minds and were not inclined to take advice, even from a person so sympathetic to the cause of labor and so well qualified to give advice as Mr. Wilson.

"However, the effort of Mr. Wilson to prevent the Federation from endorsing any of the candidates until after Mr. Davis had been heard from, was not altogether in vain. Mr Wilson has succeeded in placing before the country, and in calling labor's attention to, the record of the Democratic nominee in matters where labor's interests were at stake. Altho Mr. Gompers is inclined to question some of Mr. Wilson's deductions, the Davis record may be studied with profit by those members of labor unions who do not accept dictation from union officials as to how they shall vote."

Finally, remarks the Indianapolis *News* (Ind.), "the labor leaders have declared against the candidates of both old parties, and in favor of the La Follette ticket—as they have a perfect right to do." And now, the only question is as to how far they speak, not for labor, but for individual laboring men."

HOW TO SAVE 50,000,000 TONS OF COAL A YEAR

"ALADDIN AND HIS MAGICAL LAMP had nothing on the modern American citizen," remarks an editorial writer after reading the report by Secretary Hoover's Northeastern superpower committee. According to that report, the establishment of a number of centralized steam electric works, the interconnection of all generating works, and the maximum development of hydro-electric power in New England, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and the District of Columbia, would save 50,000,000 tons of coal every year. As the Detroit *News* reminds us, "the superpower idea is the natural outgrowth of a condition in which potential is going to waste at an enormous rate, in which labor is duplicated, transportation costs on fuel shipments increasing, and the demand for power mounting more rapidly than means of creating power." The Michigan paper goes on to say:

"A typical movement of coal from mine to power-house reveals the extent of this economic waste. In the first place, a third of the coal mined must be burned up in locomotives to carry the remainder to consumers. It must be hauled over branch and main lines, through freight centers and into terminals where it helps along rail congestion. Again, in time of need large consumers are obliged to bid against one another for necessary coal. The cost of this state of affairs is reflected in costs of all fuel, costs of commodities made by manufacturers who use coal, expenses growing out of rail congestions, and in some cases in periodic unemployment.

"The superpower scheme, insofar as it relates to coal (which produces considerably more power in this country than water produces), is simply to erect great power-production plants at the mouths of mines, eliminating the cost of carrying power coal by rail and the necessity for burning up precious coal in carrying other coal, obviating rail congestion, making possible cleaner cities, reducing the amount of coal actually used to produce an equal amount of power, and decentralizing industry and stemming the modern evil of cramming already overcrowded cities to the point of suffocation."

As we are further told, "it will prove one of the greatest steps forward in the simplification of industrial effort since the building up of industrial America. Properly controlled at its inception and thereafter, to insure against its acquisition by monopoly, it will exert changes on our social structure which stagger the imagination." The Albany *Knickerbocker Press* observes:

"Superpower is a gigantic scheme. It is the biggest big business yet tackled. The question arises as to how it will affect the small power concerns; how great a monopoly it will create; whether such a monopoly is a desirable monopoly; how superpower can be financed; whether such extensions can be made profitable; whether the costs of production will be increased or lessened. In fact, superpower is so big it requires attention of the biggest engineers the United States Government and the States can employ. Every phase of superpower ought to be investigated and the public ought to be fully informed upon the subject."

Tho recognizing that the saving of 50,000,000 tons of coal a year would be "of large importance," the Chicago *Journal of Commerce* warns us that "it is easy to get too optimistic about the report," and continues:

"Such a saving would not by any means effectuate the dreams of those who believe that within the comparatively near future a superpower system can be developed which would destroy the usefulness of steam plants.

"Steam plants will remain. All the water-power facilities in the United States, were they developed to their utmost, would be insufficient to care for the needs of the general run of our industries. Much less would they be able to provide power for lighting, traction, the electrification of railways, domestic uses, and the other purposes which are embraced in the grandiose dreams of some enthusiasts.

"Not only are the American water-power facilities insufficient, but the principal potentialities are on the Western coast, so distant that, with the present means available, the power could not be transmitted many hundreds of miles inland."

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"100 WOMEN IN CONGRESS!"

THE "VIVACIOUS AND SPRIGHTLY" National Woman's party is to "campaign for the election of at least 100 women to the House of Representatives," we are told, and "the plan is to run women as women." At present only six women are candidates for Congress, tho primaries have been held in fifteen States. According to Miss Alice Paul, vice-president of the National Woman's party, "in only three of the fifteen States has a woman received the nomination on any ticket." "In Illinois, one woman, Mary Ward Hart, of Benton, was nominated for Congressman-at-Large on the Democratic ticket. In Nebraska, Luella Barton has received a nomination on the Prohibition ticket for the First Congressional District. In Pennsylvania, four women have been nominated. The Democratic party has nominated Jessie Collett, of Philadelphia, for the Second Congressional District; the Socialist party has nominated Jennie Dorribaum, of Philadelphia, for the Third District, and the Prohibition party has nominated Anna Van Skite, of Norristown, for the Ninth District, and Elizabeth Culberson, of Meadville, for the Twenty-ninth District." Miss Paul's statement in the New York *Herald Tribune* continues:

"The Republican party has given no woman a nomination. The Democratic party has given a nomination to only two women, in districts where the Democrats are conceded to have no chance. These primary results show that women will not be elected to this coming Congress through the interest of any political party. They will be elected only if women themselves determine that women shall be in Congress, and organize an effective campaign to put them there."

Commenting on this appeal, the Tacoma *Ledger* tells us:

"Woman may become prominent in political life because of what she is and what she knows, but she can no more gain such prominence simply because she is a woman than a man, any man, upon the ground of sex, may expect to be honored by the suffrage of his fellows. So long as women aspire to public position or political honors upon the ground of sex, so long must woman expect to be deprived of a chance which she undoubtedly has a right to expect—preferment at the hands of her fellow citizens."

Doubting that there is much "zeal among women for division on sex lines," the Pittsburgh *Gazette Times* observes:

"Some women may have ambition to be national legislators, and it is a proper ambition, but they do not appeal to women as women. The mass of women evinces no disposition to vote on sex lines. That is the condition to which the National Woman's party objects. In most States women are more numerous than men and can secure representation if they go after it."

Tho the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* pokes fun at the National Woman's party's contention that "men could not, in courtesy, oppose legislation asked by feminine members," it feels that "as a general proposition 'one hundred women in Congress' is not a bad one. Certainly, at least, the women could not be much worse than the men who have made up recent Congresses."

OF COURSE THEY FOUND IT HARD TO GET TOGETHER

—Pease in the Newark *News*.

BRITAIN'S TRUCE WITH THE BEAR

A "HUGE JOKE," as London is reported to regard it, and a "fake" according to Lloyd George, the Anglo-Russian agreement is described by Lord Curzon as "one of the most amazing incidents in British history, while readers of Kipling recall the warning: "There is no truce with Adam Zad, the bear that walks like a man." Now that agreement has been reached, after a conference lasting four months, a London correspondent tells the New York *World* that most Englishmen concur in Sir Robert Horne's opinion: "This hurriedly patched-up document is an attempt on the part of the Labor Government to put before the country something which apparently will fulfil at least a small portion of the promises made to the electorate. But when the document is read, one can only come to the conclusion that there is no agreement which is of any advantage to any one." There are two treaties, we are told, and, as we learn from the Washington *Post*, which is edited by George Harvey, former Ambassador to Great Britain:

"One of these treaties is general, revising old treaties and dealing with financial claims and the conditional promise of a loan to the Soviet. The other treaty is commercial.

"Neither of these treaties will go into effect until approved by Parliament. The opposition already developed indicates that the Government will have great difficulty in obtaining parliamentary approval. The subject goes over until the reconvening of Parliament, which may occur as early as September 30 on account of the situation in Ireland.

"The treaties with the Soviet reveal that the four months' negotiations resulted in a victory for the Russians. They have proved to be shrewd negotiators, as usual; but it seems highly improbable that the British Parliament will be as easily hoodwinked as the Government has been by the Reds.

"In the general treaty the Soviet Government does not withdraw its repudiation of debts of the former Russian Government, but it declares that 'by way of exception' it will satisfy the claims of British holders of bonds issued or guaranteed by the former Imperial Government. But the British Government concedes that the Soviet can not pay these claims in full, and the matter is then 'settled' by an agreement to negotiate with bondholders within a period of ten years, subject to ultimate approval by the British Government when it is satisfied that the Soviet's terms have been accepted by the holders of not less than one-half of the capital values of British holdings. All claims and counterclaims for debts, loans, and damages between August, 1914, and the date of *de jure* recognition of the Soviet, in February, 1924, are held in suspense, subject to 'ultimate payment' by the Soviet when its commission shall have assessed each claim.

"Claims of British subjects for damages resulting from nationalization of industries in Russia will also be reviewed by a Soviet commission. When all the negotiations have been concluded, the findings are to be embodied in a treaty between Russia and Great Britain; and thereupon the British Government will ask Parliament for permission to guarantee a loan to be issued by the Soviet. But the treaty in question will not become effective until the loan is guaranteed."

As the Washington paper goes on to say, it "is apparent that

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the Soviet holds all claims in its own hands, and really guarantees nothing." Consequently,

"If it succeeds in wearing out individual claimants, it will finally agree to pay them a fraction of their claims, but only upon condition that the British Government first guarantees a loan to be floated by the Reds. In other words, the Russian Communists agree that the Britons may pay themselves back a part of their own claims out of money lent to the Soviet. The arrangement leaves to the caprice of the Reds the repayment of the loan which Britain is to guarantee. If the Soviet acts according to form, it will repudiate this debt as it has all others, after it had obtained the money."

Meanwhile,

"The commercial treaty commits the British Government to recognition of the Soviet's monopoly of foreign trade, and yet provides that neither the Soviet nor its representatives shall be

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ANOTHER VICTIM OF AMNESIA, OR SOMETHING

—Reid for the Bell Syndicate.

subject to the British courts. British traders, therefore, will be in the position of dealing with foreigners who can not be held to account by law. The trade agents of the Soviet are granted diplomatic immunity. The Soviet grants 'most-favored-nation' rights to British nationals in Russia."

The treaties "are in effect mere surrenders to the Russian Soviet by the British Labor Government," believes *The Post*, which remarks further:

"Without good faith on the part of the Reds the engagements regarding claims and debts are worthless, and the wording of the treaties is such as to warrant the opinion that the Reds have purposely left loopholes through which to escape all responsibility. They gain all-important recognition and the promise of a loan from Britain, as well as the right to trade in Britain without legal accountability, while their own vague engagements leave to future negotiation all the claims of Britons against Russia."

But, according to the London Bureau of the New York *Journal of Commerce*, "the arrangement for a loan to Russia, coupled with recognition of the Soviet monoply in trade, does not accord with the views of any one except the Socialists," and a London dispatch to *The Wall Street Journal* tells us that British financiers "do not intend to lend money on such a flimsy agreement," while "a prominent official" is quoted as saying that the Soviets "can not hope to get more than £3,000,000 export credit and advances on bill discounts and no loans from the city." Assuming that loans will actually be made, the Baltimore *Sun* observes:

"If they work successfully in stimulating trade, less and less will probably be heard in Great Britain about Russia's repudiation of Czarist debts. But in the event that trade is not improved, Mr. MacDonald will come in for very rough handling when Parliament reconvenes."

The Troy *Record*, however, suggests that discussion of loans is premature, as—

"The Conservatives in Parliament intend to make a fight against the confirmation of the document; and it is still doubtful whether the Liberals will stand for their Labor allies."

That trade with Russia is sufficiently important to justify the taking of risks, politically, the Dallas *News* appears to doubt. "The outside world can not sell to Russians who can not buy, nor can it buy from them the products which Russians do not produce," we are reminded, and the editorial continues:

"E. M. Miller in *The Commerce Monthly* (published by the National Bank of Commerce, New York) for August, finds that the trade of Russia is now about one-eighth of what it was ten years ago—and at that time it was not much larger than the trade of British India. Two-thirds of the exports of Russia at that time went to three countries—Germany, the United Kingdom and The Netherlands. One-half of its imports came from Germany. To the rest of the world Russia meant but little except as the export of wheat furnished competition for grain-growing countries.

"Russian export of wheat did not represent a real surplus. Russia has rarely grown more wheat than Russia could consume, it is stated. On the contrary, famine is frequent.

"Under these conditions it is plain why trade agreements with Russia come to nothing. The Soviet hand has stilled ambition, throttled production and pinched the consumption of Russia until it is a starved land of starved hopes and starved powers."

Taking quite the opposite view, *The Nation* (New York) remarks that "the flurry over the political and diplomatic questions involved has obscured the solid achievement of the business men and experts who hammered out the trade agreement which is incorporated in the general treaty," for, as *The Nation* contends,

"England will be doing more than merely 'signing a blank check' even if she ratifies the treaty before the details of the debt and the loan proposals are worked out; she will be putting into operation a complete machinery of commercial intercourse elaborately designed to meet the needs of a capitalist and a communist government engaged in friendly trade. The agreement gives Great Britain most-favored-nation treatment in the matter of tariffs and general trade facilities, and her vessels will have the same privileges as Russian ships in Russian ports. It gives England the same right as Italy to carry on coastwise shipping between certain specified ports in the Black Sea. It gives diplomatic immunity to the persons and offices of the Russian Trade Delegation in England except in their capacity as commercial agents. It guarantees Russia's right to claim as property of the Soviet Government all ships of Russian registry that come into British ports, no matter who the present owners may be. It allows for the separate negotiation of treaties or trade agreements by Russia with the British Dominions, including the Irish Free State and India.

"This agreement means much to England, which, through a dozen different trading corporations, is carrying on a lively commerce with Russia in machinery, lumber, manufactured goods, and flax. It would mean something to the United States but for the sheer insanity that runs through our Russian policy. Already several companies, incorporated under our laws and authorized by the Russian Government for trade in the United States, are carrying on business with American exporters. But, thanks to Mr. Hughes, our ships in Russian ports must pay for wharfage, piloting, and other facilities, five or six times the amount paid by Italian or British vessels. The tariff levied on our goods is higher. Our agents and business men have neither ordinary consular services nor the protection of an American passport. All this because Mr. Hughes seems to believe, in the face of considerable evidence, that Russia has no government."

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A NEW "GET-OUT-THE-VOTE" MOVEMENT

VOTERS WHO DO NOT VOTE have become, in the words of the Boston *Herald*, "a national problem of great importance." So numerous are they, in fact, that a "Get-Out-the-Vote Club" has been organized in Washington to persuade the chronic stay-at-home to "be a citizen for one day, at least," as the Houston *Chronicle* puts it. "It is the non-voting citizen who is chiefly responsible for the sort of Government and the type of public servants we have," declares the Dallas *Journal*. "Such a person is nothing less than a slovenly slacker," maintains the New York *Evening World*, for, the St. Louis *Star* reminds us, there can be "slackers" in peace as well as in war.

According to some amazing figures compiled by *Collier's Weekly*, there has been a steady falling off in the interest of the voters in the destiny of their Government. In 1896, according to this survey, 80 per cent. of the voters cast ballots; in 1900, 73 per cent.; in 1908, 66 per cent.; in 1912, 62 per cent.; and in 1920, less than 50 per cent. Still other figures are furnished by Boyden Sparkes in *Collier's:*

"In the less dramatic but equally important Congressional election of 1922 there were 6,000,000 fewer ballots cast than there were in the Presidential election of 1920. Consider the case of Michigan. The electorate voting was slightly less than 31 per cent., and the stay-at-home vote was more than 69 per cent.

"Now take another example, Tennessee. Only 18 per cent. of the legal vote was cast in the 1922 election and Senator Kenneth McKellar, the victorious Democrat, received only 12.5 per cent. of the eligible vote. When the 1922 votes were counted in Minnesota, it was disclosed that the Farmer-Labor party had elected Henrik Shipstead to be Senator. He received only 26 per cent. of the possible vote. Senator Howell of Nebraska was elected by 32 per cent. of the voters of his State; Senator La Follette, Wisconsin, by 28 per cent.; Senator Lodge, Massachusetts, 22 per cent.; Senator Pepper, Pennsylvania, 18.9, and Senator Copeland, New York, 25 per cent."

"It is a national disgrace," thinks the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, "that less than 50 per cent. of those who were qualified should have voted at the last Presidential election." "More than that, it is perilous," adds the South Bend *Tribune*. "If we do not vote, we are disloyal to ourselves, our children, and our country," says a *Collier's Weekly* editorial, while *The Homiletic Review* (New York), which has received President Coolidge's endorsement of its plan to "get out the Christian vote" in November, looks upon this apathy among voters as "one of the greatest menaces to an intelligently governed democracy."

The Washington organization finds that but 26,674,000 persons voted in the last Presidential election, altho there were no less than 54,420,000 qualified voters. Native-born Americans appear to be the worst offenders, we are told, as Census Bureau figures show 21,000,000 more native-born voters than the total Presidential vote. In the Constitution of the Club we learn that—

"The purpose of this association is to aid by all practicable and efficient means a full registration and vote of all qualified American citizens throughout the United States. To that end it is our purpose to organize herewith a national association which shall take general charge of a nation-wide suffrage movement; a State organization thereunder for each of the forty-eight States and the District of Columbia; a Congressional district organization for each district in the respective States, and such other county, city and town units as may from time to time be deemed expedient.

"It is our purpose to enroll members and enlist active workers in such organizations, regardless of political affiliations; to co-operate with public officials and civic or political committees; to promote a campaign of national and State education; and likewise to engage in active and direct measures to secure the registration of voters, to get voters out to the polls and aid absentee voters in casting their ballots, and to devise such measures and enlist funds necessary thereto for efficiently carrying out the above purposes."

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ROUGH WATER AND HALF THE CREW NOT WORKING

—Darling in *Collier's, The National Weekly.*

"This non-partizan organization is to smoke out the slackers," explains the Philadelphia *Public Ledger*. Continues this paper:

"This is an excellent move. It deserves to go far. Along some such way runs the road back to party responsibility and genuine party government. If carried through, it will be cold poison for blocs, selfish minorities and the personal ambitions of petty men."

A mere mobilization of the country's vote, however, will not solve the problem, in the opinion of the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*. "Citizens not only should vote, but they should know what they are voting for." Also, "more vital issues and less hokum in politics would help a lot," thinks the Philadelphia *Bulletin*, and a reader of the New York *Herald Tribune*, in a letter to that paper, asks: "What is to be gained by herding the indifferent and the ignorant to the polls? Will this result in better government? And is it not the case, particularly among colored people and the foreign-born, that a large proportion of the married women prefer to let their husbands represent them at the polls?" As the Lincoln (Nebr.) *State Journal* points out:

"In 1920 the women had just been enfranchised, and many of them had not had time for the mental readjustment necessary to bring them to the polls. That was a year, moreover, when results were foregone conclusions and many did not deem it worth while merely to increase the labor of counting. Anyway, the number of voting slackers is not of itself a sign that government is going to the bad.

"The decline in partizan feeling is reducing the quantity of voting, but can any one say it has lowered the quality? What with the universal newspaper, and magazine, with wire and wireless communication, and the greater intermingling of the people by means of modern transportation, is it safe to say that quiet tho they be about it, the people of the United States are applying more intelligent interest to their public affairs than ever before?"

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HOW DRY IS KANSAS?

IN A "VICTORY MESSAGE TO THE WORLD," a group of distinguished Kansans—among them William Allen White, Victor Murdock, Governor Davis, former Governor Henry J. Allen, and Attorney-General Griffith—announce the result of forty-four years of Prohibition in the Sunflower State. As summarized by the press, their message claims that Kansas has to-day a "well-developed temperance conscience" and a "strong disgust for intemperance"; that "respect for the law, which in early years of Prohibition was brought about by compulsion, now is voluntary"; that "each generation is further removed from an appetite for poisonous drink"; that "ease of enforcement grows with enforcement"; that "no repeal or modification is needed, wanted or considered"; that "officials and private citizens" think Prohibition "the State's best business asset"; that "many crimes that are committed in communities that tolerate liquor are absent from Kansas"; that "conviction of violators is easier now than at any time in the past, due to the years of proof that intoxicating liquor is a commercial and social detriment to any community"; that "many undesirable influences that attend liquor were banished from the State when liquor was banished"; that "liquor sales are not even permitted in Kansas on doctors' prescriptions." In a word, "liquor is an outlaw" there, and Kansas "is forty-four years removed from the thought of ever returning to the days of the saloon," tho the message records that the State experienced some slight difficulty in enforcing the Volstead Law at first:

"When the Eighteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution closed all the distilleries and breweries of other States a few people in Kansas proceeded to equip themselves to produce what they wanted. The result was a new violator of the law—the manufacturer of home-brew. Thereupon, Kansas proceeded to provide a law which penalized these violators."

In this, as in its other efforts toward enforcing Prohibition, the State has been remarkably successful, believes the Wichita *Beacon*, which assures us:

"Kansas has now marched far enough along in its battle for Prohibition to see that a very considerable advance has been made and consolidated. Kansas people note with some amusement the arguments that are now being made against Prohibition in the East. They are the very same arguments made here twenty and thirty years ago and proven fallacious.

"In spite of sporadic lapses and occasional outcroppings of bootleggery and back-alley brewing, the liquor traffic has been relegated to the things that are disreputable. The State will never go back to open saloons. The victory of Kansas, a pioneer in the movement, will before many years be the victory of the nation."

Admiring from afar, the Portland *Oregonian* responds with an editorial headed "Not One Regret," and reminding us that "forty-four years ago the Kansas legislature banished John Barleycorn, his heirs and assigns, in the briefest of prohibitory acts. The amendment to the State constitution, which created a condition of aridity in Kansas, is worded as follows: 'The manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor shall forever be prohibited in this State, except for medicinal, scientific and mechanical purposes.'" The editorial continues:

"Correctly to comprehend the scope and exactions of the task tackled and trimmed by Kansas, you must cast back for forty years. Truly those early Kansans were pioneers of Prohibition. Forty years ago the saloon was in the saddle, and saloon, brewery, and distillery were mighty in politics. Forty years ago it was commonly regarded as a man's own concern if he chose a short-cut to ruin. Forty years ago, and especially in such country as Kansas, every hospitable home had its full jug. Yet Kansas enacted Prohibition.

"To-day Kansas proclaims that Prohibition, when effectively administered, accomplishes in fullest measure all that the friends of Prohibition ever claimed it would. Here is a fact for the wets to stub their wayward toes on. And here, as well, is a source of renewed confidence in the eventual success of National Prohibition—not a partial, but a complete, vindication of the greatest social experiment ever attempted by any nation. What Kansas has done America can do. And in honor it can do no less."

However, the "Victory Message" is not universally applauded. A traveler in Kansas sends a copy of it to us labeled, "A Contribution for Your Comic Page," and Mr. E. Haldeman-Julius, of Girard, Kansas, writes in *The Haldeman-Julius Weekly*:

"I do not care to discuss the entire State of Kansas, mainly because I am without information in other counties. But I can talk about the county in which I live—Crawford County—down here in southeastern Kansas, the fourth largest county in Kansas. If the rest of Kansas is as dry as Crawford County we had better start another Anti-Saloon League, put on a hundred thousand more officers and pass the bone-dry law again to make sure it passed in the first place. Prohibition is not working in this county, and I am sure the fine gentlemen who signed that proclamation must be aware of the facts. Within two blocks of my office is the new jail, the best building in Girard, after the court-house. This jail has almost fifty offenders behind the bars for selling booze. It is claimed there are stills within a hundred steps of the jail. There is no end of bootlegging to help take care of the thirst good Kansans have learned to raise in secret. It may be that this condition exists only in my county. But I doubt it. Crawford County is in Kansas, no matter what Bill White and Henry Allen say about it. And booze is here galore—tanks of it, at a reasonable price, with polite, friendly service thrown in."

"Ed" Howe, in *Ed Howe's Monthly* (Atchison), writes, not of a single county, but of Kansas in general, and tells us that he "can buy beer and whisky almost any day anywhere." As for home-manufacturers, he declares:

"The ordinary White Mule (moonshine whisky) is very common in almost every community, because it is so easily made. I know women who have their cooks make it, as they 'put over' oatmeal for breakfast. With ginger-ale, White Mule makes a palatable drink, has a big kick, and many men buy it by the barrel, in order to be Bigger Devils than their neighbors. At a certain country club a party was given, and White Mule flowed like water. Not only the guests drank too much, but they gave it to the girls in the dining-room. The music finally stopt because the musicians were made drunk by the men giving the party. And the women who drink to be devilish are otherwise good women. For some reason there is a national revolt against Prohibition. I know men who ask blessings at their tables and drink White Mule. And they are not tough men; they are among the very best men in their community. I know a man and his wife who were leaders in temperance work for forty years in the days of license. After Prohibition was adopted I have seen them drink cocktails made of White Mule."

Tho confessing a great unwillingness to "snatch the halo from Kansas," Capt. W. H. Stayton, head of the Association Against the Prohibition Amendment, tells the press that "in 1922, in Wichita alone, the police department reported 402 convictions for violations of the liquor laws, with nearly as many more cases transferred on State warrants to the County and Federal Governments," while "thirty raids by the police department of Wichita in the same year netted eleven stills and many gallons of liquor and barrels of mash." Reading on—

"A recent editorial in the Wichita *Eagle* tears off the mask of assumed righteousness and lays bare the responsibility of radical Prohibition enforcement legislation for present conditions, in the following words:

"'These two concoctions (reclaimed alcohol and corn whisky) are being sold almost openly in Wichita. Boys of high-school age may buy as readily as the old soak or the confirmed drunkard. The profits from the business are so enormous that it is no hardship on a bootlegger to fine him. Thirty days in jail does not deter him. As stated before, he can not be convicted under the persistent violator clause. So there you are.'

"In other words, Kansas under State-wide Prohibition was thoroughly decent during the decade preceding the passage of the Eighteenth Amendment and the Volstead Law. By the testimony adduced from the official records and confirmed by editorial comment in one of her leading papers, Kansas is rapidly 'going to the dogs' under the demoralizing conditions engendered by National Prohibition."

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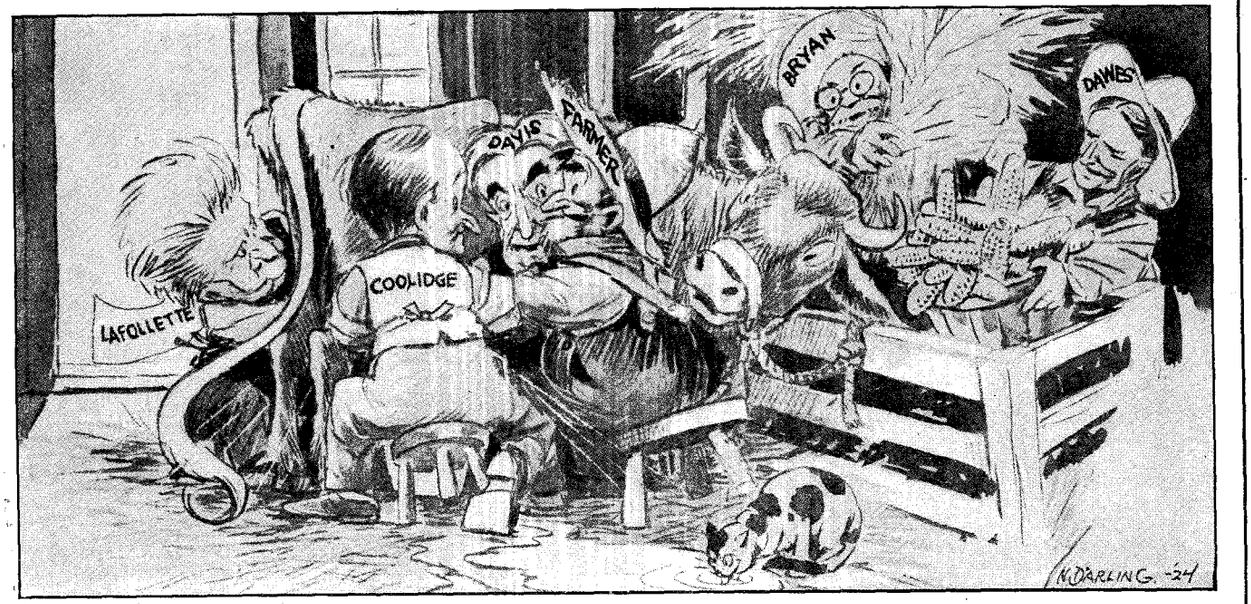

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LOOKS AS IF THERE ISN'T GOING TO BE ANY SHORTAGE OF HELP FOR THE FARM THIS YEAR

—Darling in *Colliers'*, *The National Weekly.*

TOPICS IN BRIEF

(*An extension of this department appears weekly on the screen as "Fun from the Press"*)

THE main idea of the German seems to be to get the money.—*Boston Globe.*

PROBABLY there are times when William J. thinks of the ticket as Bryan and Davis.—*Toledo Blade.*

No wife can ever endure a gambling husband unless he is a steady winner.—*Houston Post-Dispatch.*

MOST men would be willing to earn their money honestly if it didn't take so long.—*New York American.*

THE general opinion is that it takes a wee bit too much to make France feel safe.—*West Palm Beach Post.*

WE sometimes wonder if saving the country every four years isn't pretty rough on the country.—*Dallas News.*

MANY a man who grooms himself for public office first curries favor with the party leaders.—*Little Rock Arkansas Gazette.*

WHEN it comes to solving the world's problems, perspiration makes the best solvent we can think of.—*San Francisco Chronicle.*

ONLY the rival campaign managers understand how high grain prices aid the Republicans and help the Democrats.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

EVEN La Follette's most partizan admirers will have to admit that the Senator from Wisconsin is a bloc-head.—*Grand Rapids Herald.*

SOME sun worshipers from Persia are on a visit to England. They knew where to come for a real holiday.—*The Humorist* (*London*).

WHO ever imagined that the time would come when the pacifists would be doing the most of the fighting?—*Boston Shoe and Leather Reporter.*

NOTICE to saddle horses: The Prince of Wales, on his visit to America, will be known as "Lord Renfrew."—*Little Rock Arkansas Gazette.*

IF the War Department continues its explanations, Mobilization Day will have been intended to be only an informal tea-party.—*New York World.*

THE cable yesterday brought the news that the old war restrictions had been withdrawn and that Germany is going to have beer with 6 per cent. of alcohol. Now, doggone it, who won the war?—*Chicago Tribune.*

WHAT this country needs is shoe-strings that last as long as shoes.—*Columbia Record.*

THE zloty, Poland's new coin, is no doubt designed for zlot machines.—*Wall Street Journal.*

MR. GOMPERS never lets what he calls his non-partizanism interfere with his politics.—*Toledo Blade.*

HENRY FORD has denied the report that he is going to start a bank. Henry is a bank.—*Milwaukee Journal.*

AFTER the tourist season Europe will no doubt make a payment on her war debt.—*Florida Times-Union.*

WE may at least hope that Defense Day will not involve mobilizing the military experts.—*Springfield Republican.*

WELL, when at last Ford has all the money we can use Ford parts as a medium of exchange.—*Associated Editors* (*Chicago*).

THERE are two classes: dreamers and doers. One howls for light wine and the other plants grapevines.—*Birmingham News.*

ANOTHER good thing about treasures in heaven is that they can't be reached with an inheritance tax.—*New York Evening Bulletin.*

THERE are two million laws in force in the U. S., says a writer. And then there is Prohibition as well.—*The Passing Show* (*London*).

IT has been just ten years since the Great War started, and we often wonder when it will end and who will win.—*Houston Post-Dispatch.*

ETHYL gas is said to give increased mileage and take the knock out of motor-car engines. Ethyl, meet Lizzie.—*Little Rock Arkansas Gazette.*

MODERN-DAY alienists are creating the impression that to be insane is not really a reflection upon one's intelligence.—*Birmingham Age-Herald.*

THE British object to the elevation of the guns on the battleships of the United States. Another uplift movement has struck a snag.—*St. Paul Pioneer Press.*

THE Democratic party virtually has admitted that Mr. Coolidge is a weakling. All that now remains to be done is to convince the country that the reluctant admission is true.—*New York Evening Post.*

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FOREIGN - COMMENT

THE FIRST YEAR OF SPAIN'S MILITARY DIRECTORATE

THE FIRST YEAR OF DICTATORSHIPS is not always the hardest, it is said by those who point to Premier Mussolini's present strenuous days as compared with the clean sweep he made for months after his famous march on Rome. In the case of Spain, according to observers of this mind, it would seem that the longer the Military Directorate headed by Gen. Primo de Rivera lasts, the more difficult will be its struggle for existence. Nevertheless, after a variety of rumors about the possibility of its downfall, Madrid press dispatches relate that "sources close to the Government" make it clear that the Military Directorate is still in complete control in Spain and will continue to be "until the politicians of the old régime have been ousted from the political arena and their parties have disappeared." These dispatches advise us further that:

Keystone View photograph

ALFONSO XIII OF SPAIN

Who says that, if he had known what the Spanish people thought of the politicians, "I, myself, would have led the revolution two years before Primo de Rivera led it."

"Rumors circulated of divisions within the Army also are said to lack real importance.

"The Spanish Military Government, according to these sources, desires to convince the old-time politicians that they must go, and hopes to bar their return. For this purpose the Government is favorably disposed toward the formation of new parties, with their ranks open to all classes. It is the intention of the Government, one official declared, to form a phalanx of new elements, with but one aim—to bar the return to power of members of former Governments.

"When this is accomplished and their work is finished, he added, the Military Directorate is ready to step out and hand over the reins of Government to those it considers capable of continuing the work of the Directorate."

Among the press of Spain, the monthly *Comercio Hispano Britanico* of Madrid is enthusiastic in praising the Directorate for the economic rehabilitation of the country and it declares that:

"Whatever may be said against it, the fact is that Spain has never been in better hands than to-day. The help given to Spanish industries and enterprises by the Government is unbelievable, and undreamed of under the old parliamentary régime. The first acts of the Directorate were the canceling of railroad subsidies, which were a heavy drain on the Treasury, the granting of 20,000,000 pesetas for irrigation work, of 10,000,000 pesetas for cotton development, and only a few days ago, the unparalleled help to new industries in the shape of subsidies up to a total of 150,000,000 pesetas. Interest of five per cent. is guaranteed by the Government on all investments made in new industries. What Government has ever done that?"

Marked improvement in Spain's financial condition is claimed by the Directorate, according to figures given to the press by its Minister of Finance, which show an estimated deficit of 163,880,000 pesetas for 1924-1925 as against a deficit of 576,700,000 pesetas for the period 1923-1924—part of which was under the rule of the Directorate—and as against a deficit of 920,000,000 pesetas for 1922-1923, before the Directorate. The stability of the peseta, which has fluctuated little since September 1923, is said to be another source of satisfaction to the present Government, which considers it a mark of success in spite of an adverse trade balance for the fiscal year ending June 30, of 1,600,000,000 pesetas. (Normally, the peseta is equivalent to .193 in American gold dollars, but the actual average rate of exchange is .135.)

Keystone View photograph

SPAIN'S MILITARY DICTATOR

Gen. Primo de Rivera, who declares that until the future leaders of his country show themselves fit, "we shall continue guiding the destiny of Spain for the welfare of the Spanish people."

In a speech widely quoted in the press of Spain, King Alfonso is quoted as having said in praise of the Directorate: "Had I known the real state of mind of the people toward the politicians, I, myself, would have led the revolution two years before Primo de Rivera led it." Speaking in his own defense, Gen. Primo de Rivera is quoted as summing up the achievements of his administration in these words: "The wave of terrorism menacing the nation disappeared in three months. Catalonian separatism, which had been raised to a high pitch, has practically died out. The budget, that showed a deficit of 900,000,000 pesetas, will be short only 163,000,000 pesetas this year. The exchange is stabilized and on the road to complete recovery. Our foreign relations are in splendid shape. Spain reoccupies her place in the sun. We are preparing to turn over the Government to civilians. With this end in view, we are fostering the formation of a party called Union Patriotica, in which the best elements of all the old parties will have a share. When they are ready, we shall order the Army to swear allegiance and obedience to the new civilian Government. I shall then retire, confining myself to military duties and abandoning political life. But until the future leaders show themselves fit, we shall continue in our place, guiding the destiny of Spain for the welfare of the Spanish people."

On the subject of the Directorate's alleged persecution of certain intellectual figures, the Madrid *Debate* declares that:

"The Directorate has never disturbed or impeded any scientific activities. It has never touched or attacked the life of any

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university. It is, therefore, futile to speak of 'wholesale persecution' of the intellectuals."

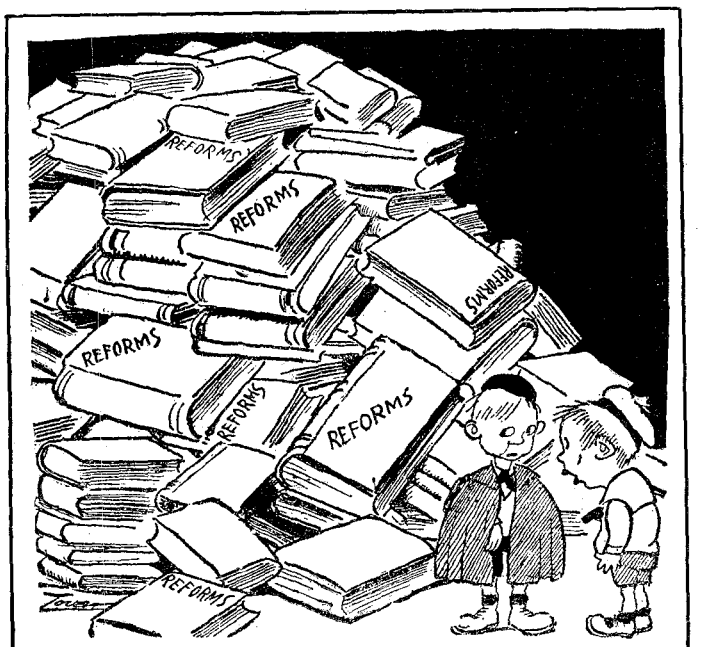
In sharp contrast to the encomiums showered upon the Directorate by its admirers, we have the remark of a very severe critic, the Socialist Madrid *Cultura Obrera*, that: "Spain has been turned into a barracks for the past twelve months. Bound and gagged by a few ignorant soldiers, who ruthlessly suppress all constitutional procedure and jailed all those who dared oppose their will, the Spanish people to-day live under a tyranny worse than the worst times of Russia under its Czars." A less fiery critic of Gen. Primo de Rivera is the conservative Madrid *Epoca*, which considers that the one great mistake he has made has been to govern without parliament, and it goes on to say:

"Somebody said recently, referring to parliaments, that it is impossible to govern with them and also impossible to govern without them. The evil of Spanish parliamentarism came from the absence of major political parties. Parliament had been fractioned into countless small personal groups, that held the reins of power in turn, providing they did not really govern. In spite of all, parliamentarism is not dead yet. We still consider it absolutely necessary to our civic life."

El Sol of Madrid, which is described as a stanch supporter of the Directorate, does not hesitate to express itself as follows:

"The Directorate has not been established only to govern like any other Government. It is not accepted only in the hope of seeing it sign a few decrees more or less important. Far from pretending it could evade the solution of minor problems, we insist, however, on the point that it should have other ends in mind. Its main purpose was to clean up vitiated systems of government. All Governments are temporary, but they work and are entitled to fight for a longer stay at the helm of State, while the task laid upon the Directorate is to prepare the way for a normal Government and then quit. We are, therefore, more interested in the future than in the present or in the past. When the Directorate points to work done, we look forward to what will come out of its reforms. Time alone will give the answer to the successes heralded to-day."

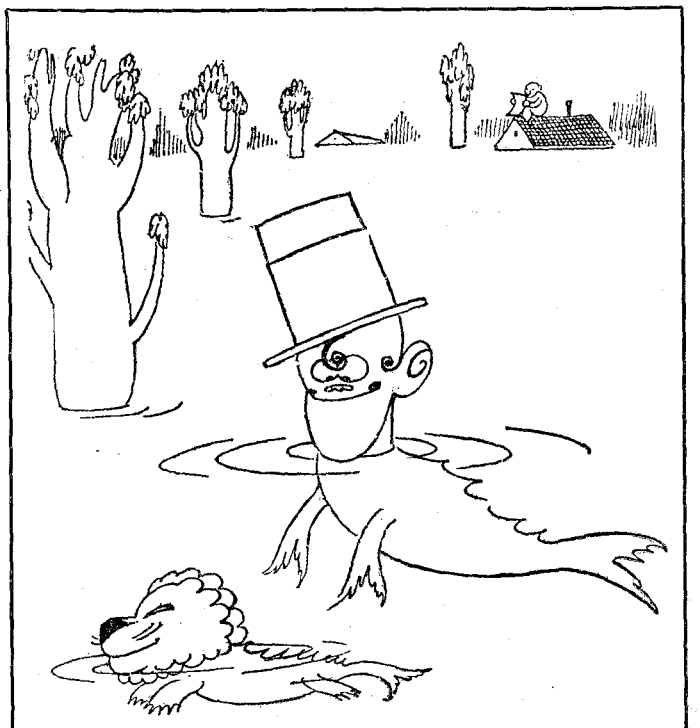
Turning to the ticklish subject of Morocco, the Madrid *A. B. C.* says tartly that "the mediocre purposes of the Protectorate do not justify the sacrifices it cost the country" and it adds: "The first and main promise made by Primo de Rivera one year ago was to put an end to the Moroccan problem. We mean a real end, and not a temporary palliative."



A SPANISH SLAP AT THE DIRECTORATE

"What do you think of all these plans of reforms?"
"Our Ministers will have a pretty hard time learning them."
—*El Sol* (Madrid).

But it appears from the Spanish press that when General de Rivera lately made a trip to Morocco, to impress upon the Army the convenience of adopting a policy of evacuation, he was confronted with wide-spread opposition from all the military chiefs actually engaged in warfare, who hold the opinion that Spain should stick to the task of completely pacifying Morocco.



JUSTIFIED OPTIMISM

THE SPANISH PEOPLE: "I do not feel the least disturbed. I have been near drowning for more than a century."
—*El Sol* (Madrid).

GROUP PIONEERING IN AUSTRALIA

A MODERN METHOD OF COLONIZATION has been under way for several years in Australia and elicits the praise of that outspoken Labor organ, the London *Daily Herald*. Immigrants succeed in this region, and one of this newspaper's contributors advises us that success is achieved under the new method known as Group Settlement. Government surveyors select an area where the soil is first grade, the rainfall ample, and where a permanent water supply is available from creeks or wells, or both. A clearing is then made sufficient for a camp and we read:

"Meantime, a group for the working of the land is formed through the selection of about twenty men, intending migrants, by an official of the Australian Government. These, who need have no other capital but a good character and a good physique, undertake to work loyally together under the supervision of an Australian expert until the land has reached a certain degree of development. If married, the man's wife and family are included in the party.

"When these settlers come from Great Britain, on their arrival at their port of destination, the men approved for immediate group work proceed to the selected area, the women and children usually remaining at a Government hostel.

"Within ten days or a fortnight the men have erected under the smaller trees temporary simple structures—huts containing two or three rooms with curtained partitions for family use. These shelters erected, the women and children join the group, bringing with them the essential equipment for the preparation of meals."

Then the work of clearing begins in earnest and this informant tells us that about 100 acres are allotted to each settler, of which five acres are entirely cleared, and 20 acres partly. These clearings are gradually sown with grass and clover seed and stocked with cattle. On each 100-acre holding a bungalow is erected. During this preliminary period, which roughly takes

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GROUP-SETTLING IN THE EARLY STAGES

At the left, temporary simple structures of corrugated iron erected within ten days or a fortnight of the arrival of the settlers. The next step of the settlers' progress appears at the right in a bungalow with its indispensable tank for saving rain-water

about two years, it appears that the group works together. But when the 20 blocks have reached this degree of development, and the necessary fencing and water supply have been provided, the group dissolves. This informant proceeds:

"Each settler has by then a bungalow, ten cows, pigs, poultry, a horse and plow, and the freehold of 100 acres of first-grade land. For this he will owe the Australian Government £1,000, which he will repay with interest from the produce of his land during the ensuing thirty years.

"During the first two years, he will draw, also as a loan from the Australian Government, £3 a week in the form of wages, but this is included in the total amount that the settler gradually repays. He will find that sum ample, as the temporary hut is rent free, and wood for firing purposes can be had for the taking.

"Assistance for the women of the group is now being increasingly organized, and in Busselton, a town near several of the groups, there is an organized plan of communication between the local Mothers' Union and the wives of the group members to secure correspondence, occasional visitings, and the distribution of books.

"The group children are also not forgotten, and whenever these number ten or twelve a school is opened in a temporary hut, the State providing a qualified teacher."

The first result of this method, says this contributor to *The Daily Herald,* is that in the densely wooded area southwest of western Australia, some 200 miles from the port of Fremantle, under the blue skies and in the brilliant sunshine that favors the land, you can hear to-day the familiar accent of the London streets mingled with the dialect of Cornwall and the unmistakable English of the native-born Australian. The outlook of a settlement in its early stages is further described as follows:

"Houses as we know them in our cities here are entirely from the scene. The serried ranks of those giants of the forest, the Karri and Jarrah trees, with smaller members of the eucalyptus family and other undergrowth, are broken only by occasional clearings at irregular distances for some fifteen miles.

"These clearings are dotted by shacks with corrugated iron roofs set some thirty yards apart, or by bungalows with deep verandas, each standing in about 100 acres of land. The residents of these farms-in-the-making are the settlers under the new Group Scheme, a development that bears much the same relationship to the land as town-planning does to the cities in our town country.

"Both schemes are the outcome—whether consciously or not—of a desire for organization and cooperation, and for the creation of a more orderly and less selfishly individualistic civilization."

Photographs from Australian Commonwealth Immigration Office

THE FRUITS OF ORGANIZED SKILL AND INDUSTRY

Finished products of group-pioneering in New South Wales.

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BRITAIN'S NEED OF IMPERIAL COOPERATION

RUMORS OF A ROUND TABLE conference of the British Dominions and the Home Government, in order to determine the constitution of future Imperial Conferences, and their relations to the different Governments and Parliaments throughout the Empire, suggest to some Dominion editors consideration of the whole machinery of Imperial team organization. It is said to be a common mistake to speak of the "Imperial Conference" as a constitutionally established body. The Auckland *New Zealand Herald* makes this observation and notes that the Colonial Conference of 1887 has been described as "the first of a series," as if it were designed to originate an approved method of Imperial cooperation. This is a misconception, we are told, and further advised:

"No definite plan of consultation or combined action was then propounded or even conceived. The first gathering was held at the time of Queen Victoria's jubilee celebrations, advantage being taken to call together for counsel the leading Colonial statesmen then present in London. It was altogether a casual arrangement, not to be dignified even as an experiment, for no particular scheme of consultation was being put to the test. The Diamond Jubilee of 1897 and King Edward's coronation in 1901 provided similar occasions, similarly used. 'The story of the Imperial Conference,' to quote an authority upon its history, 'is the story of how a number of more or less casual meetings gradually fell into place in men's minds as successive stages in the growth of a single institution, and of how that institution, slowly becoming conscious of itself, provided itself with rules of procedure and a regular constitution.'"

But the reaching of a stage at which its own methods could be formulated, we are told, did not solve the practical problems of the Imperial Conference. It was something to have got a recognized method for calling together the Dominions' representatives in consultation with the British Ministers charged with responsibilities for Colonial and Foreign policies, and this should not be belittled, says the *New Zealand Herald*. It met a need in a typically British way, by taking occasion by the hand "without any attempt to forecast a constitutional journey with a fixt objective"; yet this fact can not hide the extreme importance of the departure from the old order, and we read:

"Government from Downing Street without the governed being taken into confidence had gone forever. But there remained a practical problem that has become pressing. In itself, the Imperial Conference was established, but what was its real relationship to the Governments and Parliaments of the Empire? Were they under any obligation to accept its findings or give effect to its resolutions? The Conference itself was discouraged from attempts to face the problem: it was realized that it trenched dangerously on the vital question of the constitution of the Empire itself, and typically British reluctance to give verbally formal shape to that acted as a brake on impulses toward formal definition. Yet the problem, even in its most crucial form, could not be forgotten.

"The Imperial War Conference of 1917 looked at it very seriously, and passed a significant resolution. The constitutional relations of the component parts of the Empire were declared, in that resolution, to be too important and intricate a matter to be dealt with during the war, but that they should be the subject of a special Imperial Conference to be called as soon as possible after the cessation of hostilities. The Conference deemed it its duty, however, to record its opinion that, while all existing powers of self-government should be preserved to the Dominions, their right to an adequate voice in Foreign policy should be acknowledged and 'effective arrangements for continuous consultation in all important matters of common Imperial concern, and for such necessary concerted action, founded on consultation, as the several Governments may determine,' should be made. There the matter has rested, save for some practical extensions of liberty to the Dominions in Foreign affairs, it being felt that 'freedom is the cement of Imperial unity.'"

This Auckland daily goes on to say that this extension of liberty has served to emphasize the need for adequate and effective consultation, "if the Empire is to survive as a political unit." Unless means of consultation are perfected and officially constituted, it maintains that diverse action in Foreign and Imperial relations, even in matters relatively small, may bring friction and disintegration. What is more—

"To make the resolutions of the Imperial Conference binding on the several Governments and Parliaments, however, altho a temptingly short-cut to the problem's solution, would be a fatal reversal of the wise policy of freedom. The decisions of the Conference must be left for the ratification of the several Parliaments. That should be regarded as axiomatic. Nevertheless, resolutions of the Imperial Conference should not be exposed to treatment as party shuttlecocks. They should be regarded as above party."

ECHOES OF JAPANESE IRE

A TRAIT PECULIAR to the Japanese, namely, that their "irritable and touchy temper soon subsides with the lapse of time," is said by certain Tokyo editors to be once more evident in the agitation aroused by America's new immigration law. The enforcement of this law on July 1, we are reminded, excited passionate anger throughout Japan, but the Tokyo *Yamato* points out that the Government did not take any action because of the sitting of the Diet. On that date a demonstration was made by a student association and other bodies, but "it appears that no further activities are carried on." So this newspaper and others question whether the Japanese do not "get over their mad" too quickly, and it goes on to say:

"Persons who entertain such a doubt may be limited in number, but we hold that the Government is responsible for such a state of affairs. It may be contended that Japan protested to the United States Government prior to the enforcement of the act, and that, accordingly, she has refrained from further protest. If this supposition be true, the Government is certainly mistaken in its view. It should have been the duty of the Government to consider proper steps to give expression to the generally felt dissatisfaction and anger against the new immigration act. The Government may defend itself by saying that it has been kept busy by the sitting of the Diet and also by other business, which we know full well. Yet the Government is not free from censure, because the American question forms one of the most important items of public business. The apparent indifference may be construed as a silent acceptance of the act."

A bitter critic of the United States in this matter of the immigration law is the Tokyo *Yorodzu*, which says that certain persons are of the opinion that the principles of justice and equity are the "traditional spirit of the Americans," but—

"Our idea is entirely different. Let us ask how far the Americans have carried out those principles. When we examine the behavior of Americans, we shall find not a few errors committed by them. The Monroe Doctrine says that interference in the politics not only of the United States but also in those of other States of the American continents by the nations of the other hemisphere shall be regarded as an unfriendly act to America. From the ordinary point of reasoning, such a political principle hampers the liberty and freedom of other Powers. According to this principle, it may be said that American interference in the politics of other nations is an unfriendly act to those countries. But the United States dared to interfere in the Hawaiian and the Philippine Islands, and occupied them without shame. . . . Further, with regard to the new immigration act, they maintain that it is to reject Asiatics in order to protect their own laboring men so that those men may be able to enjoy an easy life. This means to say that they have closed their doors against Asiatics for economic reasons. Granting that their reasoning is all right, we can safely say that other nations are fully entitled to close their doors against the Americans for a similar reason. But Americans are so wayward and audacious as to press Japan to accede to their claim for the Open Door and for the principle of Equal Opportunity in China, intending to hamper international relations between Japan and China. In other words, it is as much as to say that the closing of their doors against the Japanese and other Asiatic peoples is justified, but that they would never allow others to do the same against them."

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SCIENCE - AND - INVENTION

TRAINED EARS THAT SAVE DOLLARS

BRASS WORKERS HEAR "TEMPERS," dull tools and noises imperceptible to ordinary ears. "Trained hearing has saved us thousands of dollars," says the *Chase Diamond*, official publication of the Chase Companies, brass manufacturers of Waterbury, Connecticut. Some time ago it was discovered that there were many employees of the company, both men and women, whose sense of hearing was so acute that in spite of the deafening roar of machinery they could hear noises, or the absence of noises, or variations of noises, that the ordinary person would never notice. In every case it was discovered that this unusual gift was not inherited, but acquired. It didn't come to them suddenly or easily, but only after years of experience and familiarity with their work, surrounded by the same machines, that their hearing would develop this delicate keenness that gave them the power to notice the smallest sound amid other noises. A curious thing was found—that the ability is more common where factory noises are deafening. It is the overpowering noise itself that makes these trained ears so delicate that they can hear what would be inaudible to others. We read, in substance:

Illustrations by courtesy of *The Chase Diamond* (Waterbury, Conn.)

SHE CAN TELL EACH PIECE BY ITS TONE

Just as bells give different sounds, each brass part has its note.

"Dogs, cats and wild animals hear and see things that a man can not. Perhaps because they can not talk and use their mind in the way we do, their senses of hearing and seeing are abnormally developed. In the same way the old woodsman will hear noises that a city man would never notice.

"Ears are funny things. They can be trained not only to detect minute sounds in an apparent stillness, but they can be trained not to hear certain noises, or to pick a particular noise from others that may be much louder, or to hear any variation of noise.

"The leader of an orchestra through the maze of music played by the hundred or more musicians can distinctly hear the delicate obbligato of one of the violins, and pick out the faintest note. The comparatively soft strains of the violin amid the noise of brass horns and kettle drums is to his ear the loudest and clearest, for he trains his ears to listen to what he wants them to hear.

"In the same way a man in a boiler-shop will not hear the noise that deafens the visitor, but he can hear every other noise.

"At the Waterbury Manufacturing Company the first thing that strikes the visitor is the constant, terrific noise of the clanging machines and 'how hard it is to talk.' It seems to him as if the nerves of the men working in the room couldn't stand the continued noise day after day, and he is surprized to know that the men don't hear the noise.

"The foreman of the Eyelet Department says, 'The men don't hear the noise as long as it is the same, it's only the difference in noise that they hear. One of my mechanics was a good man and kept his machines running well, but for a time was quite sick, and in spite of himself would sometimes fall asleep on the job. The Superintendent came through one day and caught him asleep and said to me,

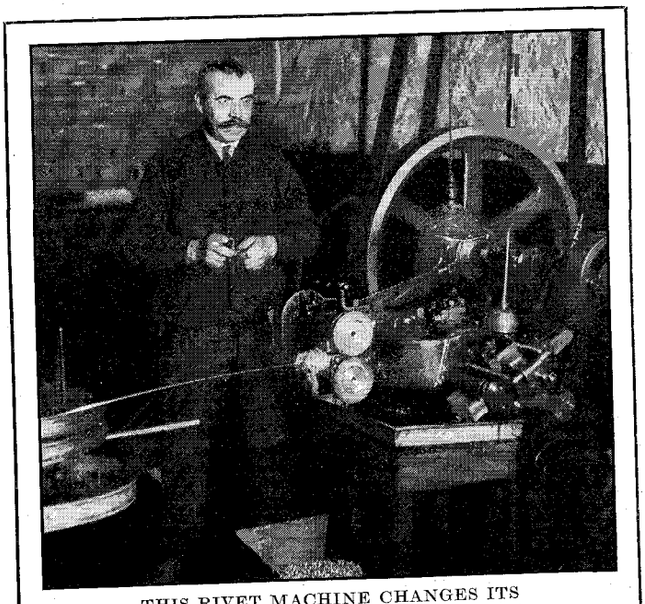
"'There is one of your men asleep.'

" I laughed and said, 'Sure I know it, but you're making money while he is sleeping, and you are losing money if he is awake—just watch.' To prove it I walked over and threw the lever of one of the machines so it stopt threading. Like a shot he was on his feet fully awake and at the machine to fix it. If he was asleep it was proof that the machines were all working correctly, for the minute anything went wrong the difference in noises would wake him up. Consequently, when he was sleeping the firm made money, but if he was awake it meant something was wrong and 'the firm was losing money.'

"In other words, here was a case of a man who only heard the difference in noises, but that was the important thing for him to hear.

"An eyelet machine is really six or seven presses rolled in one, and as each plunger comes down one after another stamping the metal through the dies it sounds like a troupe of locomotives, but in spite of its deafening noise if one of these big automatic machines gets out of time, or when some of the tools are not set properly, the slightest change in the rhythm of the noises of the moving press is like a warning gong to those old employees with trained ears.

"Another noisy machine in a brass manufacturing plant is the 'heading machine,' which makes screws and rivets from brass wire. It is deafening to listen to with its clanging of metal on metal as the steel dies crash together pounding out little copper rivets or brass screws. A room filled with long lines of these headers all pounding at once is Noise with a capital 'N,' and you can scarcely hear your companion shouting at you above the uproar. But if you will look across the room you will see the foreman sitting quietly at his desk figuring out his department costs, or looking over his orders, absolutely unconscious of the roar of these head-splitting machines. He actually doesn't hear the tremendous tumult about him, but let the wire



THIS RIVET MACHINE CHANGES ITS SOUND WHEN OPERATING BADLY

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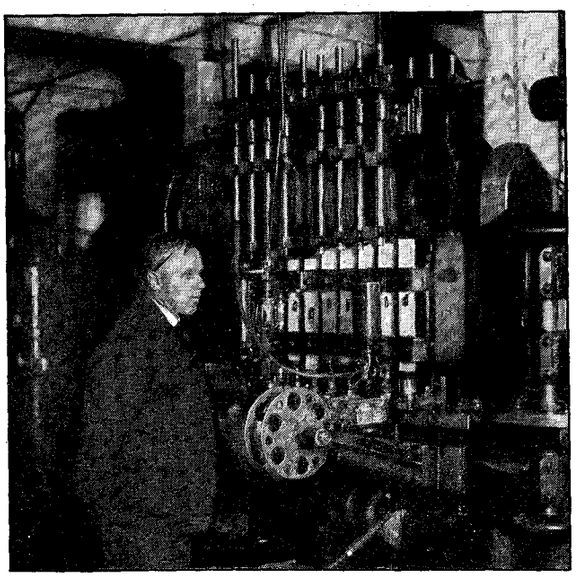
stop feeding in one of the machines, or have the machine clog, or imperfect metal run through, and he can feel the change of sound and is on the job to fix what might develop into serious trouble and which is now only a temporary delay. The faint difference in sound lost in the uproar of the machinery to the ordinary observer is louder than all the rest to one trained in noises.

"In addition to hearing absence of noise, variations of noises also tell much to trained workers. John Hoyt, long-time head of the screw department, can tell by the tone of the sound made by cutting tools how sharp the tool is. The difference in the whining sound of the steel tool as it cuts its way through the brass rod differs greatly to his ears if the tool is dull, and he can even spot which machine and which tool is the one that needs replacement amid lines of screw machines.



A PRIZE NOISE-MAKER

An eyelet machine, and an employee whose trained ears guard it.

"One of the most amazing cases of trained ears is that of Miss Mary Gorman, an employee who has been for years in charge of the girl inspectors in one of the packing departments. Through her department come many of the thin stampings and shells used in electrical supplies, and large cases of brass articles are dumped out on the inspection benches to be inspected and packed. As these cases are emptied out on the inspection bench there is a certain ring or tone accompanying the pouring out of large numbers of brass articles, and Miss Gorman through many years of experience has become able to determine merely by listening to the jingle of the brass articles as they roll out of the cases whether there is any accumulation of scrap or defective shells in the batch; and, what is more remarkable yet, she can tell whether there is any variation in the temper of the shells.

"This is something that is very valuable to the plant, as once in a while a load of screw shells or other small stampings will slip through without the proper annealing which gives the right temper to the article, and through trained ears this mistake is caught, not by the look or by the feel of the shell, but by the sound the untempered metal makes. Miss Gorman says there is also a sharp distinction between the sound of copper articles and brass articles when cases of them are emptied.

"The development of keen hearing in industrial plants is not only interesting, but, as already pointed out, useful and sometimes of vital importance. When tools are dull, machines badly set up, or when automatic feeds are not working, many hundreds of dollars of scrap metal may be lost before the situation is noticed and remedied.

"The element of safety is of equal importance. Tools out of line, loose belts, broken safety catches, may mean mutilated hands, or even life itself, and every precaution must be taken to guard against them. The Waterbury Manufacturing Company has found that the trained ears of its long experienced employees are a valuable safeguard against such troubles and accidents."

SHALL THE TROLLEY RUN THE TAXI?—"A strong argument in favor of the supply by electric railway companies of all of the kinds of transportation needed in the city is made in *The Electric Railway Journal* (New York) by George H. Davis, who approaches the situation from a new angle in that he estimates the number of vehicles required in cities of more than 100,000 population to give the public the transportation service which it needs. Says an editorial writer in the paper just named:

"In general, his estimate of the number of passenger electric railway cars does not differ greatly from those at present. His figure, exclusive of rapid transit lines, is 30,000 forty-four-passenger double-truck motor-cars with trailers, but he would increase considerably the carrying capacity of the buses used in city service, and he believes the railway company should control them and also the taxicabs in the city. The purpose of this would be to eliminate duplication—sometimes triplication—of existing service.

"All may not agree with Mr. Davis's total figures or with the division which he proposes for the different means of transportation, or with the types and capacities of vehicles suggested. The suggestion that railway companies should engage in taxicab service will also provoke comment, as this individual service seems a little far afield from that supplied by the average electric railway. There is no doubt, however, that the taxicab is a favorite form of public transportation and that by the application of scientific principles of routing, in coordination with other means of transit, much of the present taxicab dead mileage could be eliminated. In other words, if the principles of coordination of all means are to be followed to their logical conclusion, there are arguments in favor of the operation of taxicabs by the organization that runs the cars and buses."

WEATHER AND HEALTH

DO YOU FEEL BETTER on a sunshiny day than when it is rainy? Does a cool, bracing October day "set you up," while a damp, hot atmosphere in August pulls you down? These things can not be neglected by physicians, says a writer in *The Journal of the American Medical Association* (Chicago). The benefits that repeatedly accrue to persons ordered to a "change of scene" are often too indisputably real to be gainsaid, he asserts. Change of climate may mean far more than transport to a place where altitude, regimen, temperature, moisture and other atmospheric conditions are different; it may mean removal from smoke and dust and other noxious agencies in the air; it may bring about new associations and furnish a new personal environment. He continues:

"Climatology, from the human standpoint, has not yet reached the dignity of an exact science. It still banks on combinations of tradition, unverified beliefs and empiric deductions. For the North Temperate Zone it has been alleged more than once that limitations imposed by weather cause many persons to lead unhygienic lives in winter, some individuals almost entering a state of hibernation. For some of these, spring brings a welcomed tonic change; others seek it by removing to a different locality. The meaning of sunshine has become apparent in recent years in connection with various diseases. Tuberculosis and rickets, for example, can testify amply to the health-giving virtues of the direct rays of the sun.

"Climate and the weather are indissolubly associated. Work and play are often necessarily adjusted to the forecasts of the 'weather man.' Despite the jibes that are often leveled at him, his prognostications are carefully watched each day by thousands. The detailed studies of climatology by the Weather Bureau furnish the basis for considering the possible advantageous adjustment of many enterprises, including the location of sanatoriums or the migration of the sick and convalescent. Hundreds of official reporting stations and, literally, thousands of cooperative stations are to-day furnishing the records on which the multifarious work of the U. S. Weather Bureau is built."

The credit for taking the first official observations of the weather belongs to the Army Medical Department, according to records recently reported by Professor Humphreys of the U. S. Weather Bureau. An order, dated May 2, 1814, makes it a duty of hospital surgeons to keep a diary of the weather; and

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one such journal, kept at Cambridge, Massachusetts, is dated July, 1816. We read further:

"This order appears to have been heartily endorsed by the first Surgeon-General of the Army, Gen. Joseph Lovell, appointed in 1818. In urging the approval of the order, he says: 'Every physician who makes a science of his profession or arrives at eminence in it will keep a journal of this nature, as the influence of weather and climate upon diseases, especially epidemics, is perfectly well known. Every surgeon should be furnished with a good thermometer, and, in addition to a diary of the weather, should note everything relative to the topography of his station, the climate, complaints prevalent in the vicinity, etc., that may tend to discover the causes of diseases, to the promotion of health, and the improvement of medical science.' The first volume of the meteorological observations by the Army Medical Department, covering the years 1822-1825, inclusive, was published in 1826. One purpose of this publication was to stimulate the study of the question, then under discussion, whether there is any progressive change in the climate of any portion of the country, and, if there is, how it is related to settlement and cultivation, a problem that has not yet been solved in all its details. One of the most important climatic generalizations thus obtained was the fact that near large bodies of water the climate is more equable than it is far inland.

"Those who have read the protocols of the laborious observations made by the pioneer American physiologist William Beaumont on the gastric conditions in his classic patient, Alexis S. Martin, may recall the meticulous care with which he recorded meteorological details. From one group of experiments Beaumont concluded that 'the variations of the atmosphere produce effects on the temperature of the stomach, a dry atmosphere increasing and a humid one diminishing it.' And at the end of a century of progress we can still truthfully repeat the jingle:

"What is it molds the life of man?
The weather.
What makes some black and others tan?
The weather.
What makes the Zulu live in trees,
And Congo natives dress in leaves,
While others go in furs and freeze?
The weather."

THE BRAINY ONLY CHILD—The only child has more brains than children with many brothers and sisters, according to conclusions reached by Dr. Hornell Hart, as a result of a study of 600 families in a typical Iowa city. The results have been reported to the Iowa Child Welfare Research Station at the State University. Says Science Service's *Daily Science News Bulletin* (Washington):

"Children from large families are handicapped mentally, morally and socially. In a representative sample of children from practically completed families in Davenport, Iowa, the ability of the children as determined by mental tests was found generally to run higher the fewer the number of surviving children. Children with no living brothers or sisters tend to have mental test quotients about fifteen points higher than children with eleven living brothers and sisters, and the average mental-test ability decreases fairly steadily as the size of the families increases. Dr. Hart says, 'School progress, in excess or defect of the amount to be expected from mental-test ability, is at a maximum in families of four or five living children, and at a minimum in families of ten children or over. The difference between the progress in school of these two groups is such that the average child in the very large family loses about one-third of a year through conditions other than mental-test ability associated with large families. The larger the family the greater the tendency is for the children to leave school at the earliest possible age. Of families with seven or more living children, fourteen per cent. are chronically dependent, as compared with three per cent. among families with six children or less. As far as can be ascertained from teachers' ratings, children in large families are less energetic, less kind, less sincere, and less honest than children from small families. This conclusion is fairly certain for energy, but not so decisive for the other characteristics. Contrary to general impression, children without brothers and sisters compare very favorably with children having brothers or sisters. Birth order, as far as it was studied in this inquiry, appears to have very little significance.'"

MOLASSES AS A FOOD

MOLASSES IS BY NO MEANS what it used to be. The liquid residue of sugar-manufacture has become less sweet as methods of recovering more and more sugar from it have been perfected. Not so very many years ago, says Dr. William Edward Fitch, writing in *The American Food Journal* (New York), molasses was one of the principal foods of the United States. That was the day when it was made by pressing the juice from the sugar-cane, boiling it to a crystal in large open kettles, and then putting the crystalline mass into perforated hogsheads where the liquid was allowed to run off, leaving in the hogsheads what was known as "open kettle, or muscavado sugar." The liquid was a heavy sirup known as "open kettle" molasses. This was the molasses that our grandmothers knew and used. Dr. Fitch continues:

"To-day efficiency has lowered the quality of molasses by providing methods for more thoroughly extracting the sugar. There is still, however, some of the good old molasses to be had. A little is produced in Louisiana, but it principally comes at the present time from the West Indies.

"The amount of molasses consumed varies in different localities. In the metropolitan areas in the United States comparatively little is consumed. City people purchase molasses in cans, and not in barrels, and until recently only an inferior quality of molasses has been available in cans. The problem of canning high-grade molasses has recently been solved, and this will undoubtedly increase the consumption.

"In the country districts, particularly in the South and in some of the Northern States, New York, Connecticut, Vermont and Maine, the use of molasses is fairly large. The country people are satisfied to buy molasses in bulk, and they have, therefore, been able to secure right along the 'good old-fashioned sugary' molasses.

"In the cities what little molasses is used is principally for baking. In the country it is not only used in baking, but as a substitute for butter and for jam. In certain sections of the country when one stops at a small wayside inn and orders his coffee he will be asked whether he wants long or short sweetening. The 'short sweetening' is sugar, and the 'long sweetening' is molasses.

"In Newfoundland, molasses to-day is still one of the principal ingredients for sweetening tea and coffee. In the South the consumption of molasses is large, and there it is used in a multitude of foods. Molasses pie is considered a great delicacy in Alabama and Louisiana as well as other Southern States. All Southern families serve baked hams with molasses. In New England large quantities of molasses are used in baked beans, apple-pie and gingerbread.

"Molasses is of special interest from a chemical and dietetic point of view, because of the variety of ways it has been utilized as a food. Molasses contains not more than 25 per cent. of water, and not more than 5 per cent. ash, and the importance of molasses as a food is seen when it is realized that about 25 per cent. of the sugar present in the original juice is found in the final molasses.

"With the introduction of modern methods, larger quantities of sugar are now obtained in a crystallizable form, but the quality of molasses is more or less impoverished. It is the rule now to secure at least three crystallizations. 'First molasses' is obtained by placing the crystallized sugar from the vacuum pans in the centrifugal machine; the product is called 'first molasses.' Usually this is diluted to a sirup and reboiled with fresh clarified juice direct from the sugar-cane, from which a second portion of sugar is recovered; or the molasses may be boiled separately, resulting in a second crystallization, and the sugar separated by centrifugalization. The molasses from this second process is known as 'second molasses.' The 'third molasses' is made by reboiling the second molasses to a thick consistency, transferring it to a warm room, where a third crystallization takes place in from 60 to 90 days. The sugar from this crystallization is separated as before by centrifugalization, and 'third molasses' of still greater inferiority is produced."

The assimilation of the sugar content of molasses has received considerable attention at the hands of physiological chemists and dietitians. As a result it is now the consensus of opinion, Dr. Fitch tells us, that after entering the blood it is converted by the liver into glycogen, a white mealy compound containing the

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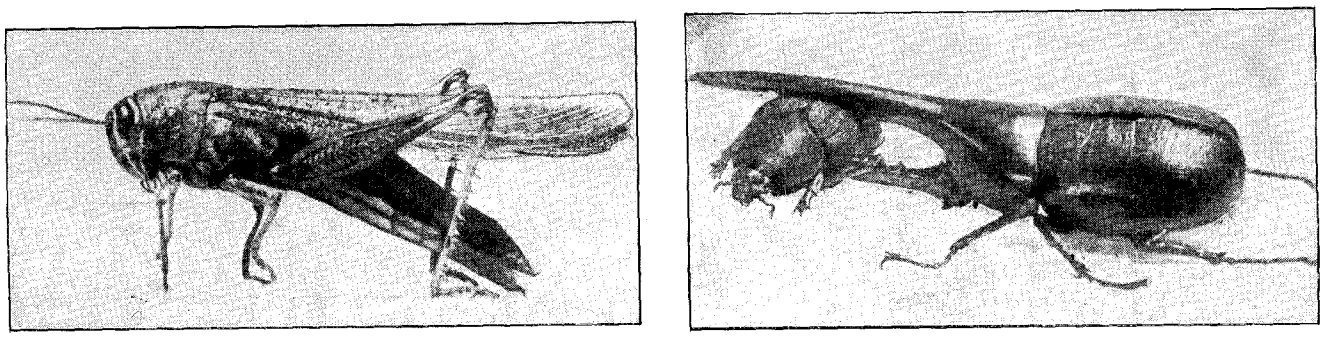

THEY DON'T LOOK VERY APPETIZING

But the locust, shown in the first picture, has served as food among many peoples of Africa and Asia since Biblical days; and the larva of the great horned beetle, an adult of which is shown in the second picture, is said to have been esteemed as a delicacy by the ancient Romans.

same chemical elements as sugar, but in different proportions. Just what becomes of it after that is more or less disputed, but every one is agreed that glycogen is the form in which sugar is stored in the body, for a time at least. He goes on:

"The fact that sugar may have a disturbing influence upon the digestion does not mean that sugar itself is at all likely to escape digestion. 'The readiness with which sugar is hydrolyzed by the intestinal juice, combined with the susceptibility of sugar to the attack of bacteria, makes it unlikely that much sugar will pass through the digestive tract unchanged.' Pflugar says, 'Undoubtedly sugar in the blood is heavily drawn on during violent exercise, hence the longing for it in a form that can be readily assimilated.'

"Good old-fashioned molasses is ranked as a more available heat producer and a more decided force conserver than starchy foods. Molasses is a highly concentrated form of carbohydrate food, easily digested, and almost entirely absorbed, adding largely to the fatty tissues of the body. The sugar content of molasses is highly nutritious, and is a great source of muscular energy.

"The negroes in the South, during the molasses-making season, from chewing the pith of the cane stalk and gormandizing the newly made molasses, rapidly increase in body weight and muscular development. The mules also grow sleek and fat from eating the refuse around the cane mills.

"The highly fattening properties of molasses, high in sugar content, are beyond question. The caloric value of old-fashioned molasses, and a few other important everyday foodstuffs are given below in calories per pound

BREAD IS MADE OF ITS EGGS

By certain tribes in Mexico. It is a water insect called *Notonectes*.

Molasses	1290
Sugar	1860
Honey	1785
White bread	1225
Butter	3605
American cheese	2055
Porterhouse steak	1270

"A point to be considered in determining the food value of molasses is the fact that it contains natural mineral salts, which have been almost entirely removed from white sugar, and from white flour. In the well-balanced modern ration molasses not only supplies these mineral salts, but it also supplies vitamins.

"'It is a well-known fact,' says Abel, 'that the harvester, laborer, lumberman, and others engaged in laborious work in the open air consume great quantities of sweets in their dietaries; largely in the form of puddings, sugar and molasses, always with benefit to them.' In this class of manual labor sugar furnished the extra energy required for the muscular energy expended in such strenuous work. Brillat-Savarin long ago pointed out the interesting fact that the English added sugar and molasses to the ration of their race horses to sustain them in their trials for speed and efficiency. When molasses is added to the diet the ability to perform work is increased, while fatigue and nitrogenous waste is lessened. Molasses is one of the most concentrated of all carbohydrate foods that contain a considerable percentage of mineral salts and vitamins.

"The development of the sugar-cane industry has had a far-reaching effect on the national health."

WHY NOT EAT INSECTS?

NOT, ASSUREDLY, because they are not good to eat, says Paul Scherdlin, writing in *Les Dernières Nouvelles* (Strasbourg, France). Many kinds are currently relished in Asia, Africa and South America. The Greeks and Romans were fond of them; but modern Europeans do not eat them. For this, Mr. Scherdlin concludes, there is no reason but fashion. We may shudder, he says, at the idea of eating insects, but we readily eat the nearly related crabs and lobsters. He writes:

"The animal and vegetable substances that we use as food are so numerous that it would be difficult to enumerate them completely. But the striking thing is that the immense class of insects, of which we know to-day a half million of species, furnishes us with only one edible product—honey. We ought strictly to add manna—the sugary substance that exudes from certain species of trees, through holes made by divers insects. But this is used rather as a medicament than as a food, altho several races use it to prepare a kind of sweetmeat, with white of egg and almonds.

"Are insects, then, inedible? Certainly not, for facts prove the contrary. Open the Bible and you will find there in the third book of Moses, in Chapter XI, verses 21, 22, that the Jews ate four kinds of crickets. According to the evangelist St. Matthew (III, 4) St. John the Baptist subsisted in the desert on locusts and wild honey. The ancient Greeks, we are told by Aristophanes, whose works are so valuable for the knowledge of Athenian institutions and customs, at the end of the fifth century used locusts as food. He represents these insects as being sold currently in the markets. Diodorus of Sicily, a Greek historian contemporary with Cæsar and Augustus, tells us that locusts served as food among many peoples of Africa and Arabia. This custom exists yet; in the French colonies in North Africa the natives collect the migratory grasshopper in great quantities for food. They are eaten raw, boiled, or fried. What is not eaten at once is dried in the sun for future use. The ancient Romans, fine epicures as they were, Pliny tells us, regaled themselves with fat larvæ of insects gathered from trees and called *cossus*. We do not know exactly what these were. Probably they were the larvæ of beetles. Fabre, the learned and lamented entomologist, thought they were the larvæ of the great horned beetle. The good old man, called by Darwin 'the Homer of insects,' even made the experiment himself. In his 'Entomological Souvenirs' he treats the matter at length. He says: 'Roasted, they are juicy, tender and tasty. There is a certain flavor of roasted almonds with a vague aroma of vanilla.'

"Larvæ are still used as food. Several Chinese peoples find

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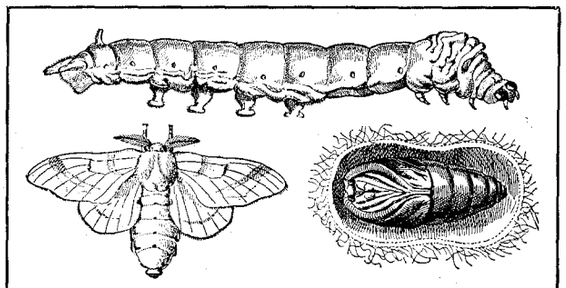
caterpillars and the chrysalises of the silk-worm excellent. They are fried in butter or oil, with the addition of yolk of egg and other ingredients. The Hovas of Madagascar regale themselves with the chrysalises of the *bombyx*, which are eaten fried or boiled. We find natives of Australia who eat night moths which they pursue and catch with the aid of torches. These are first dried and then their wings are removed. In Mexico live tribes who eat a kind of bread made in great part of the eggs of *Notonectes*. This name means nothing to you, but I beg to inform you that they are large water-bugs. The honey-ants, swelled with sweet matter, which are used for a dessert in Central America, are too well-known to readers to be mentioned further. We should mention also the termites, the gathering of which among several tribes of tropical Africa and Brazil is as important as the grain harvest is with us. The natives of Africa make bread with these insects, while those of Brazil prepare them with a sauce. Even in Europe, famine sometimes forces us to eat insects. We shall mention only the case that occurred toward the end of the seventeenth century in County Galway, Ireland, where the inhabitants were reduced to cooking and eating cockchafers.



THIS INSECT SUPPLIES BOTH FOOD AND RAIMENT

Altho the silkworm moth is not used as food, both its caterpillar and chrysalis supplement the diet of certain peoples of China.

"These examples, taken at random from many, show us that insects are quite edible and are sometimes classed as delicacies. Why do not we Occidentals eat them, then? Well, it is because we are not accustomed to do so. We instinctively follow the example of our fathers, who themselves did not eat insects. Like them we have a horror of the slow and silent movement of these little creatures; we shudder at the hard shells, covered with prickles or hairs, at the long legs and at the pincers. And nevertheless our own menus include dishes not much more appetizing. Think, for instance, of the snails and the frogs! We also eat many creatures that are close relatives of the insects, such as crabs, crayfish and lobsters."

CORN THAT RIPENS IN THE GROUND

CORN WITH STALKS SO SHORT that the ears appear to grow directly out of the ground and maturing in seventy days is now being grown at experiment stations under the direction of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, we learn from Science Service's *Daily Science News Bulletin* (Washington). In an effort to produce corn of short-growing season and high resistance to cold, this corn will be bred with varieties brought from the Andean highlands of South America by Fred D. Richey of the Bureau of Cereal Investigations, who has just returned to Washington. This South American corn matures in a climate twenty degrees colder than that of the "corn belt." We read:

"'Corn with such short stalks is now being grown that the northern farmer may before long be harvesting his corn crop with a potato-digger,' said Dr. E. D. Ball, director of scientific work of the Department of Agriculture to a Science Service reporter. 'Last summer I saw at the experiment station at Akron, Colorado, corn with stalks less than two feet tall when mature. The ears were so close to the ground that after hilling up they were nearly completely buried and appeared as if they were sprouting up through the ground directly from the roots. This corn matured in about seventy days.' These short-season corns are not the result of cross-breeding by Department experts, but are discoveries of varieties which have been grown in isolated sections in the northern parts of the continent. One of them has a rather eventful history. It was brought to Manitoba by Ruthenian immigrants a number of years ago from their native country on the slopes of the Carpathian mountains, where the season is short. They have cultivated it in their colony 250 miles northwest of Winnipeg for years and have evolved a distinct variety. Others of even shorter season have been found in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and other northern sections. In Bolivia and Peru, Mr. Richey found corn maturing in spite of the fact that the average temperature for the year was 50 degrees F., while the average minimum temperature during the growing season was as low as 39 degrees. In our corn-belt an average night minimum of 55 degrees is considered the limit for commercial production, and the average temperature during the growing season is about 72 degrees. Few varieties of corn raised commercially in this country mature in less than 120 days, altho some can be grown in 90. In the South, 150 to 180 days is the rule. It is the hope of the Department through the crossing of these South American varieties with those from the far north to obtain a short-season corn, highly resistant to low temperatures. If the results are successful the product will probably be a dwarf variety, and the potato-digger may come in handy when harvest time comes."

Mr. Richey writes to THE DIGEST that some of the press notices about this new short-growing variety of corn have been carelessly worded, so that without careful reading they indicated that this corn came from South America. He goes on:

"The Department is much interested in obtaining a variety of corn that will grow in certain sections of the United States where the limiting factor is the relatively low temperature, and more particularly the low night temperature. In an effort to develop such a variety, they are experimenting with two types of corn, (1) very early varieties, and (2) varieties that have the ability to grow at a relatively low temperature.

"In order to obtain the earliest varieties available, seed has been collected throughout the northern United States and Canada. Some of these varieties mature in seventy days from the time of planting, provided the temperature is favorable. In general, these early varieties have very short stalks, in some cases not more than four feet, and the ears are borne very close to the ground. The short stalks and low ears constitute two objections that probably will remain. These are the short-growing varieties referred to.

"Altho the season is extremely short where these strains come from, the temperature during the growing season, in general, is relatively high. The collection trip to South America was an effort to provide varieties able to grow at a relatively low temperature. Parts of Bolivia and Peru, altho situated near the equator, have such a high altitude that the mean temperature is low. Thus, the mean daily temperature for La Paz, Bolivia, is 50 degrees F., whereas the mean night temperature for the year is 39 degrees F. The frost-free season in these countries is relatively long, however, and maize requires from four to seven months to mature.

"The problem of the Department is to combine the ability to grow at a low temperature possest by these South American varieties, with the shorter growing season of our northern strains. The varieties from South America are of no value in themselves, as they are unadapted to the conditions of the United States. It is their ability to mature at a low temperature that is wanted."

TEA A BETTER STIMULANT THAN BEER—The German Institute for Research in Human Food has reached the conclusion that beer is not nearly as effective a stimulant as tea, we are told by Science Service's *Daily Science News Bulletin*:

"Results of a comparison of the two beverages were announced here recently. A half-liter of Munich beer containing about fifteen grams of alcohol brought about an acceleration of mental action for about twenty minutes, followed by a period of noticeable depression lasting twice as long. A cup of tea, on the other hand, drove the mental capacity higher by about ten per cent. for three quarters of an hour, after which the subject of the experiment returned to normal without experiencing the ill effects that followed the alcoholic stimulant. The scientists warned, however, that the average amount of stimulating caffein in the ordinary cup of tea is about one-tenth of the maximum medical dose so that there may be real danger if large amounts are imbibed at one time. A small amount of tea has relatively a greater effect than a larger amount."

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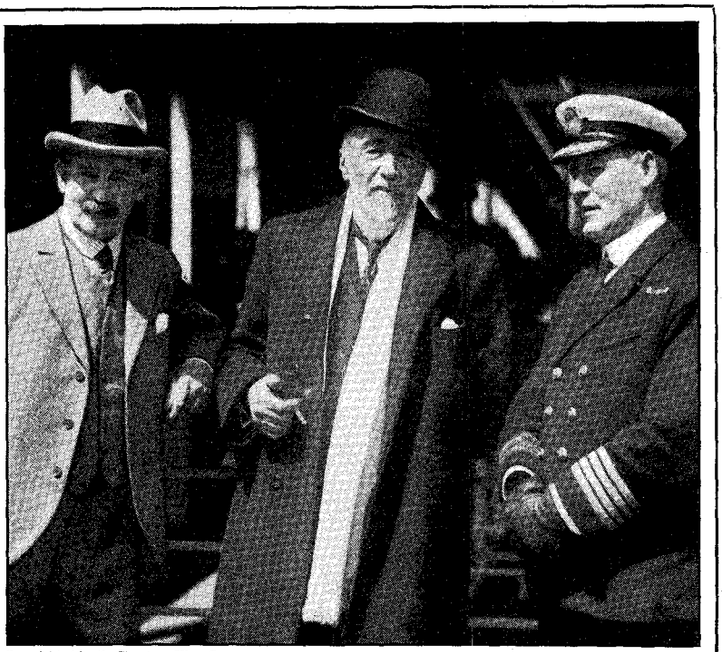
JOSEPH CONRAD

NOT of their own blood or literary lineage, yet Conrad is willingly accorded a first place by the two branches of the English-speaking family. Yet that does not "place" him unless he can be related to some of the native-born voices. American opinions must necessarily come first with us; and perhaps his widest audience is here, tho it may be his English friends will dispute the title for discrimination among his varied products. "Unique" is the easiest if somewhat overworked word which we see applied to a writer who strayed into a foreign field and wielded the instruments of the writing craft as well as the best. The New York *World* sees him "at once a Slav and an Englishman," taking his models from the Victorian and pre-Victorian age and "pouring into these old-fashioned molds a flood of reminiscence and intuitive psychology." If his "Victorianism" is meant to refer to anything more than the language that he absorbed from the writers he studied, his "message"—as the New York *Sun* sees it—is anything but Victorian. An "iconoclast" is the term here employed to describe his warfare with "certain prevailing ideas of his time." Thus:



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WHEN CONRAD VISITED US

On the deck of the *Tuscania*, on which he arrived, between Captain Bone and Muirhead Bone, the famous artist and brother of the Captain.

"His work subtly exalted character and struck disturbingly at current creeds leading toward a success typified by power or money alone. Conrad lived in an age of machinery, but he never saw the machine as an end in life. He never accepted the modern city. He portrayed the English character admirably, but suggested in unusual individuals a very different type from what the race had realized.

"Conrad was an iconoclast in an even wider sense. It has been assumed with varying certainty by the world that genius begins young and that it burns high in its own language only. Conrad published his first volume when he was 39, and he chose for his medium the third language he had learned. Joseph Korzemowski, who knew Polish as a child, then mastered French, and never knew English until he was 20, came to write immortal prose with Meredith and Hardy. He left critics to ponder again the question of whether a work of art is necessarily spoiled by translation when a great artist can translate all he has to say into a tongue he never knew until a man, and in doing so discover for it new vividness and new uses."

In another sense, pointed out by *The Herald Tribune*, Conrad is neither of to-day nor of our immediate yesterday:

"*Lord Jim*, standing in the small boat in the Red Sea, and looking back to the towering ship from which in a moment of weakness he had just leapt, remains an extraordinary dramatization of the irretrievable consequences of moral failure. And it is this emphasis upon the moral quality of life which lends the deepest tone to Conrad's work. He himself seemed to attribute it to the sea and to the influence which it has over all its sons, but whether that was true or not it gave to his books a fineness of spirit, an inherent but sympathetic decency and simplicity which an age distracted in the intricacies of sciences it does not understand and philosophies it never reads can hardly afford to lose."

Allen Nevins, alone of commentators, points out the relation Conrad bore to the work of Henry James—a relation Conrad himself has definitely acknowledged. Nevins's column in the New York *Sun*, without offering a formal biography, may serve better to canvas for new readers who may be apprized, by the death of the writer on August 4, of some one whom they have so far overlooked:

"Every one knows that Conrad came late to his fame, but few people realize just how late. Tho 'Almayer's Folly' was published in 1895, and at once attracted the attention of discerning readers like Stephen Crane, and tho 'Lord Jim' was published in 1900, even in 1910 his sales were ridiculously low. Doubleday, Page in that year sold just 585 copies of all his works. His real popularity in both America and England dated from the appearance of 'Chance' in 1914, and thereafter grew steadily. 'Victory,' which is a better book than 'Chance,' and in addition is just such an exciting tale of adventure and doom as the ordinary reader loves, added greatly to his popularity. Up to the present half a million of his books have been distributed in America, and he was among the few authors who could be counted upon to sell over 100,000 copies annually. Of course, Harold Bell Wright and A. S. M. Hutchinson do better, but considering the high artistic quality of his books it is a triumphant figure. Millions of Americans will feel his death a personal loss.

"The reason why Conrad was slow in achieving wide popularity has some connection with the reason why a few critics long looked askance at his books. The fundamental trait of his art is that it united the romantic qualities of Marryat and Stevenson with Henry James's interest in psychology. Sometimes the romantic story-teller is dominant, as in 'Victory'; sometimes Jamesian psychologist takes the foreground, as in much of 'Lord Jim.' But always Conrad was as keenly interested in the mental and emotional phenomena of human beings as in any of the physical wilderness and jungles of his far-distant islands. One of his very first books, 'The Nigger of the Narcissus,' which might appear to the hasty reader to be simply an objective story of life in a ship's forecastle, really aims at giving us the collective psychology of a whole ship's crew. The union of these two

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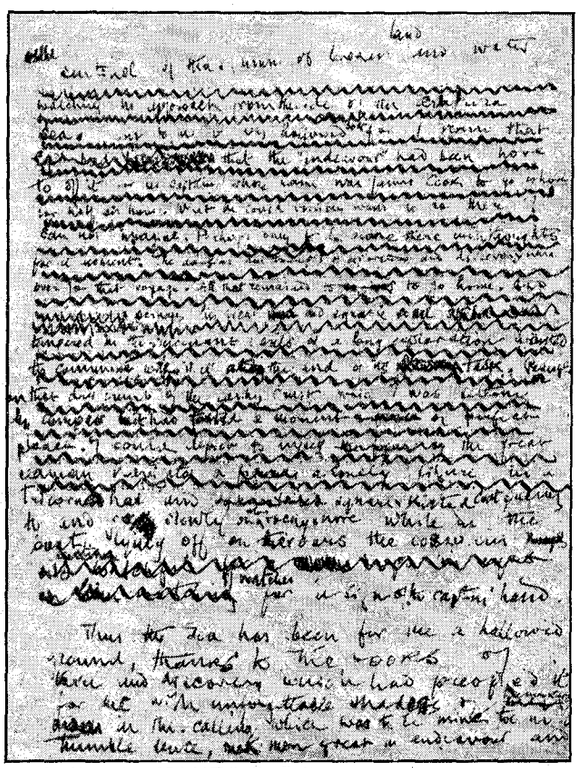
elements made many of Conrad's books seem slow and involved to ordinary readers, while it caused some critics to regard them as faulty in technique. People picked up 'Lord Jim' thinking they were going to read a gripping adventure story about a captain who had lost his ship, and found that actually they were getting an intricate psychological study like 'The Portrait of a Lady.'

"There is an artistry in Conrad that we do not begin to feel in romantic chroniclers like Marryat; there is a realistic grasp of character quite absent from the later work of James, whose personages become impalpable under the excessive analysis of their motives. Which of Conrad's books will last longest is a question that would be variously answered by men of different tastes. His reputation was long based chiefly on 'Lord Jim.'



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A PAGE OF CONRAD MANUSCRIPT

The manuscripts of most of Conrad's books brought in the Quinn sale last year over $100,000.

This book is exasperatingly told—it is indirect, complex, and, like other of Conrad's novels, including his last one, 'The Rover,' begins in the middle and works both ways—but it is impressive. Some admirers prefer 'The Nigger of the Narcissus.' Certainly this is one of his books that nobody else could even have begun to write. Still others speak up for 'Nostromo,' a striking story against a background of South American revolution; they tell us that *Nostromo* is the most romantically satisfying figure in English fiction since Scott. Many of us will vote for the incomparable shorter stories, such as 'Youth,' 'Typhoon' and 'Freya.' There is no preservative like a fine style, the imaginative power, the color, the exotic wonder, the spiritual beauty of Conrad's best work, were united with a superb command of English."

Conrad is a "collector's" writer, which is an unusual thing with one who in respect to some of his books figures also as a "best-seller." Mr. Stallings in the New York *World* gives us a glimpse of the two types of readers thus represented:

"It has been interesting to read the estimates of Conrad's achievement, to observe the various opinions as to his 'best work.' In an editorial in *The World*, whose sentiment must have pleased all Conrad readers, the writer gave 'Youth' as his choice. Any choice among these books may be disputed or defended with reason. It is one of the vagaries of his work, one of the most compelling features of his novels, that no one has ever been found who liked them all, nor have two disputants ever agreed on the man's writing.

"Rule-of-thumb critics have insisted that 'Almayer's Folly,' that first novel of the pathetic Squarehead and his jungle mansion, is the best. Others will tell you that the prose cadences in the story called 'Chance' are matchless in romantic writing. Again, the esthete reads 'Heart of Darkness,' a book reproducing a mood so that one becomes shrouded in black while reading, and finds that work the best of a prose artist of unparalleled style. . . .

"Nowhere else in literature have readers become so jealous of acolytes. Conrad, sustained in his many ramifications by only a small constricting circle of readers, seems to have inspired them to the isolation so many of his heroes knew. 'Victory' was integrated better than most of his novels, was carried at a steadier pace, was concluded in a greater burst of romantic passion. When the book earned some popularity in the best-selling sense, instantly the isolationists were condescending to its enthusiasts. The constricted circle tightened.

"No man should enter it without having some of the vast and horizonless waters of Marlowe's earlier flow of talk. No man should praise Conrad until he had hardened his mental ambition upon Conrad's sterner stuff. When Conrad wrote 'The Rover,' the book of his fading years, and carrying with it his cry of 'Steady' to old age, it was too easily read to satisfy them. They rebelled against its accessibility. They cried it down. They asked you to compare the pastel portrait of the French girl with that primitive painting of Donna Rita in 'The Arrow of Gold.' . . .

"To return to 'A Familiar Preface' in the volume called 'A Personal Record,' where Conrad sums up his own achievement (it is no secret that he thought immensely well of himself, nor is there wonder or contumely that he should have thought so), he says:

"'One's literary life must turn frequently for sustenance to memories and seek discourse with shades, unless one has made up one's mind to write only in order to reprove mankind for what it is, or praise it for what it is not, or—generally—to teach it how to behave. I have done none of these things, and I am prepared to put up serenely with the insignificance which attaches to persons who are not meddlesome in one way or other. But resignation is not indifference. I would not like to be left standing as a mere spectator on the bank of the great stream carrying onward so many lives. I would fain claim for myself the faculty of so much insight as can be exprest in a voice of sympathy and compassion.'

"It seems to me that he is claiming everything here. Firstly, he will deny that he is propagandist, that he has anything to say. Having done so, and characterized his distastes perfectly, he points modestly to the fact that he was the great artist, first, last and always. Well, it is true; isn't it?"

BYRON REFUSED ADMISSION TO WESTMINSTER—The question seems to agitate the British press, and Dean Ryle's refusal to permit a tablet to be set up in the Poets' Corner is raising a variety of questions; one of the most interesting is that discust by the Westminster *Gazette:*

"The deadlock in the movement to secure a memorial to Byron in Westminster Abbey, created by Dean Ryle's fiat on moral grounds, raises once more the question of Westminster Abbey as a national Valhalla. As the Dean has left it, the problem is hopelessly complicated, because in the past, through the characteristic British genius of compromise and common sense, we have allowed the Abbey to become part Church and part Valhalla. As a church there may be an objection in some minds to memorializing Byron there, but this objection, if logically pursued, would justify the present Dean, had he the power, in ordering the removal of many monuments to men of literary, military, and political fame whose moral life would not bear the Evangelical inquest Dean Ryle applies to Byron. How far it is good churchmanship or Christianity to refuse recognition to genius after death because of personal moral faults is a question about which other schools of religion might have something to say. If we made the test strict enough no one would be buried anywhere with benefit of clergy. It depends, for example, whether stress is laid on judgment or on pity, on censure or on pardon, and all these qualities have their place in the catalog of Christian virtues. But, over and above the case of Byron, it seems to us absurd that the choice as to

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whether a man of genius is qualified, by conduct or by public merit, to a place in the Abbey should lie at the caprice of a single person who represents only one of the denominations which constitute the Christian community in our own free land. Here is surely a case for the setting-up of a representative body similar in operation, shall we say, to the trustees of the National Art Gallery, to decide on who is entitled to the recognition of national greatness implied by commemoration in Westminster Abbey."

AN IRISH VIEW OF AMERICAN POETRY

AMERICAN POETRY has a hard row to hoe with its foreign readers, especially those who are co-inheritors of the Saxon tradition. Something that out-Whitmans Whitman is the only thing that will satisfy, apparently. Our growing infidelity to "the infallible English language" has not gone nearly far enough to suit a writer in the *Irish Statesman* (Dublin), perhaps himself Irish, tho he doesn't write in Gaelic. What he complains of is that "the infidelity is not yet great enough to form a complete literary heresy with poets and prophets powerful enough to force me to learn a new language in order to comprehend the ideas of the New World." He envisages a time when the inhabitants of the British Isles will learn American as they now learn French. This is apparently a prospect desirable of fulfilment, and at present only hazarded by an alternative possibility that "the New World may drag the Old at its heels, that the flooding of these islands with American novels and films and the sound of its broadcasted song and speech may day by day keep in tune with the evolution of language across the Atlantic." The writer, only revealed as "Y. O.," has been reading Louis Untermeyer's "American Poetry Since 1900" and is disappointed "to find there was but little rich and strange in its newness, and that there are large numbers of American poets who really might not have taken the trouble to be born in the United States at all, so firmly are they sucking at the dugs of old Mother England." Thus does the pageant of our bards pass before his unwilling eyes:

"Why was Edwin Arlington Robinson born in the United States? He is a very dry Browning with the color and sap left out. He is highly intelligent, but except in a few passages he has brought poetry more evenly astraddle on the hair which divides poetry from prose than any other I know using the English language. Robert Frost might have been born in Yorkshire. He would have written his poems just as well there. To be born in California, to turn his back on its rich color, and to try to be as English as New England is, was his choice. Vachell Lindsay is as American as it is possible to be. So is Carl Sandburg. I am more doubtful about Eugene Lee Masters, in spite of the 'Spoon River Anthology.' I think, if possible, he might have written with no change of mood a 'Lagan River Anthology.' Amy Lowell and Ezra Pound might have experimented in metrics as well on this side of the Atlantic; and, in fact, the latter has found no reason why he should remain in America, and he has remedied the mistake in his birthplace by emigrating and becoming the clever young Englishman, which was the mold in which nature cast him. James Oppenheim is transitional American. Santayana is pure Old World. So are Edna St. Vincent Millay and Sara Teasdale. As I read through the volume and study the specimens of each poet I get but rarely the shock of a new poetic consciousness. When I read Whitman long ago I was intoxicated with new wine, and another like him would have made me take ship for the New World. Alas, it is not new enough to lure me, and I love originality. Hardly one of them gives me this sensation of new loveliness which Keats, Blake, Shelley, Coleridge, Browning, Tennyson, Morris or Yeats gave us when we read them first. Lindsay is original, but not lovely, except in rare lyrics. I hesitate about Carl Sandburg. I am afraid he would never have been what he is if Whitman had not preceded him, and the same thing may be said of Oppenheim, tho both are genuine poetic personalities. Now, I am certain that Shelley would still be Shelley if the poets who preceded him for a hundred years had never existed. I can not feel about any of the contemporary American poets as I feel it to be true about Whitman that they are the only begotten of their own spirits and the world spirit. To say this is not to say that these Americans are not real poets."

Not to make his disapproval too bitter for our digestion he adds a sop:

"I feel somehow, after reading Untermeyer's book, that poetic America has not yet found itself. It has poets who write out of as deep a life as any of their English contemporaries. I am not so sure that their art is yet as perfect. There is no one with the quality of W. B. Yeats. Whitman still remains the giant in American poetry. I doubt if any of those mentioned have even the quality of Emerson at his best, who was no master of metrics, but had style and essential depth. Architecture is the great American art at present. Petrie, in his 'Revolutions of Civilization,' says civilization begins with a mastery over the plastic arts, after that comes literature. The mastery over materials is obvious in the United States. The mastery over ideas must follow soon. The royal successors to the great forerunners, Whitman and Emerson, are sure, and it is possible, indeed, that we do not see in their true perspective or stature some of those who write to-day. Nothing is more difficult than to judge rightly one's contemporaries. We rate them too low or too high. Another may find Untermeyer's book more intellectually exciting than I do, but it is well worth study by those who look on the United States as the dominating power on the planet and who wish to know what spirit is animating this giant body."

From *The Literary Digest International Book Review*

CONRAD'S FAREWELL TO THE SEA

Shown here in center of upper row as chief officer of the *Torrens*, on which he made his last cruise. The boy seated at the left was drowned saving life at sea, the boy next him became a captain in the Indian Marines, and the one on the right, when Conrad last heard of him, was a captain of a gunboat in the Chinese Customs Service.

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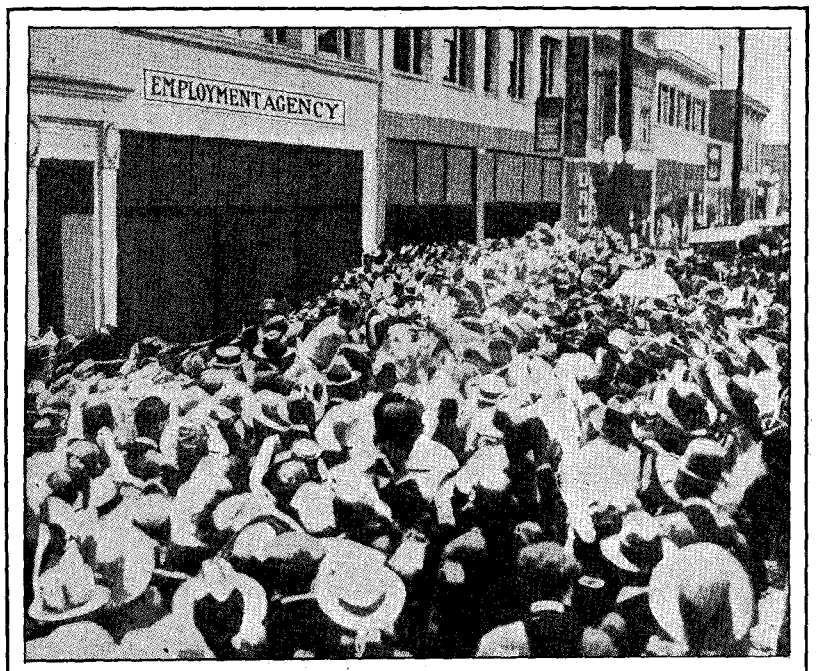
RELIGION-AND-SOCIAL-SERVICE

DANGEROUS ODDS IN HOLLYWOOD

KEEP AWAY FROM HOLLYWOOD, those of you who dream of becoming another Pickford or Fairbanks, not because Hollywood is the "Sodom of the Twentieth Century," or the "Paris of America"—it is neither of these, we are told—but because it is the port of disappointed youth. The chance of becoming a "star" in the movie firmament is only one in tens of thousands, while the chance of becoming a moral wreck is in inverse ratio. Hollywood is not especially wicked, says a minister who has been resident there for eighteen years; but it has problems peculiarly its own, and these are made the more difficult by the armies constantly seeking opportunity in its movie ranks. The minister seconds advice against trying for fortune in Hollywood issued some time ago by the Y. W. C. A., and at the same time says a good word in defense of the famous city. Fourteen years ago Hollywood was only a country village, unknown to fame, its most distinguishing feature being its lemon groves. Then came annexation to Los Angeles and the entrance of the movies, and today, writes the Rev. Edwin P. Ryland in *The Homiletic Review*, there are more than fifty studios employing 12,000 persons and with an annual pay-roll of $40,000,000. During the past year, he tells us, the industry expended $20,000,000 more on material and produced $150,000,000 worth of films. The change that this growth brought is "profound and in some ways menacing," says the minister, for the very vastness of the wealth of the motion-picture business has in it a subtle influence affecting the community as a whole, coloring its opinions, limiting its independence, arousing cupidity. "It seems but a little while ago when the Fox plant was a lemon grove, the Lasky's an old barn, and Universal City a cow-pasture. Almost overnight these studios arose and became the dispensers of fabulous wealth." And there has developed a far more serious condition than even this unparalleled money growth, writes Dr. Ryland:



A VAIN STRUGGLE FOR STARDOM

The photograph shows part of a throng of 3,500 besieging a motion-picture employment agency in answer to an advertisement for thirty-five "extras."

"The lure of the screen brings thousands of girls and boys to Hollywood from every part of the world. They come in a constant stream from cities and villages and countryside of America and Europe, come with dreams of fortune and fame, wholly ignorant of what awaits them and destined to disillusionment if not to utter failure and shame. These inexperienced children do not know how pitifully few of the thousands of their kind who have sought places in the movie sun have even partially succeeded. 'Screen Service,' the largest agency for supplying 'extras' for moving-picture work, has in a period of six years registered the names of more than one hundred thousand applicants for any kind of movie work, even the most menial, if only it can give access and opportunity for trying out one's talents. Out of this vast army of youth, only five, four women and one man, have become 'stars.' Two other women have gained partial success and are counted as good investments for the managers. What becomes of the other thousands? Some are able to make a little headway; a few, because of some abnormality of mind or body, are looked upon as worth exploiting by the shrewd business heads of the studios, very much as a certain girl was exploited at Philippi long ago; their misfortune becoming a source of gain to others and to themselves as well. Many of these thousands become extras, helpers, finding employment more or less frequently and with only meager pay. Many more never get employment in the movies at all, some of them being absorbed in other industries, some of them being lost sight of, and some becoming a virus in the blood of the community already corrupted by love of gain and the too low moral standards of many moving-picture citizens."

No community, says the writer, can assimilate such a vast number of boys and girls. They create grave problems, which, we are told, the city recognizes and is trying to meet "with sanity and wisdom." For instance, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce is making heroic effort to warn the youth of the world against the dangers that are said to inhere in the movie game. The Chamber's campaign of education involves the display of large posters in many railroad centers in this country and Europe. The poster displays a throng gathered in front of a local movie employment agency in answer to an advertisement for thirty-five "extras" for a little work. Approximately 3,500 came in eager response. The lesson was plain, and the Chamber of Commerce took advantage of it. Beneath the picture on the poster is appended this statement:

"Thousands buck the line on every call issued for a few movie-picture extras. This is a sample of the customary massed assault on the employment bureaus resulting from an ad for a few men and women to work in an insignificant scene. The wage is meager for a day or a night of hard work. Don't try to break into the movies in Hollywood until you have obtained full, frank, and dependable information from the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce."

It must be said to the credit of many motion-picture producers that they belong to this Chamber of Commerce and that they are as anxious as are other citizens to prevent the coming of these all too great throngs of youth to certain failure, writes Dr. Ryland. Another service is performed by the Studio Club, really the local branch of the Y. W. C. A., which is dedicated to the service of young women and girls in the movie industry and those who come to Hollywood seeking employment in that

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industry. The community spirit is said to be strong, finding expression in certain outstanding non-profit enterprises that make, in a notable degree, for spiritual health. The writer instances the influences that come from The Hollywood Bowl, "That Symphony Under the Stars," and "The Pilgrimage Play Theater," which he terms "The Oberammergau of America." The Bowl is the scene of the annual ten weeks' series of concerts given by the Philharmonic Orchestra, while the Pilgrimage play depicts scenes from the life of Jesus, and "is wholly spiritual and productive of great good." Whereas eighteen years ago there were five struggling little churches, now there are twenty-five to minister to the spiritual need of the people, and some of these are numbered among the great churches of Los Angeles. On the whole, then, writes Dr. Ryland, one who has lived in Hollywood during these years of transformation wonders at the "misconceptions held by many ordinarily sane people" regarding Hollywood and its life and people. True, he goes on,

"There is enough debauchery here and to spare. There is mammon worship, greed for gain that is coarse and repulsive. There is crime, and impurity can not conceal its brazen countenance. Our community has attracted far more boys and girls than it can assimilate and the result is moral disease through unemployment and disillusionment that has left depression and abandonment to evil ways.

"These unhappy truths about ourselves we know, and they have long been a challenge to the community to create a community spirit of noble type, to build up a citizenship devoted to better things, to create a spiritual atmosphere in which the soul of the community can attain to health. To this end many of our citizens are lending untiring effort. There is determination to correct the evils of the movie industry by exposing them when necessary, by preventing as far as can be the coming of children to our community with ambitions for movie fame, and by creating counter influences through church and school and community enterprises. So far as the writer knows, the conditions in Hollywood are not worse than elsewhere, they are only different. Every community has problems that try men's souls. In Hollywood the efforts to correct evil and build up truth of character are as sane and devoted as in any community of which I have knowledge. The conflict with evil is as bravely carried on here as it is in other cities. The problem of wisely opposing the evil of the movie industry and at once encouraging it to accomplish the good it is capable of requires best thought and real courage. That this problem is being wrestled with by many devoted citizens and Christian leaders is a fact that should be widely known, for it is the ground of hope that even the movie production business may yet lend itself to high human good."

LYNCHING ON THE WANE—Only five lynchings occurred in the first six months of 1924, and the record is greeted as a "remarkable" decline from the records of previous years. The number lynched in the same period of 1923 was fifteen; of 1922, thirty, and of 1921, thirty-six. The figures, as given out by Maj. R. B. Moton, Principal of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute, place two of the 1924 lynchings in Florida, two in Georgia, and one in South Carolina. All of the victims were negroes. It is worthy of note, thinks *The Presbyterian Advance*, that the crimes with which these victims were charged were very grave, the killing of an officer of the law being the least flagrant. *The Advance* does not mention this fact in justification of lynching, for, it says, "there is no justification"; but as showing that the five lynchings occurred under "strong provocation." *The Christian Century* is inclined to believe that the decrease is a sign that a permanent cure of the lynching habit is in sight, observing:

"There may be flarebacks that will, in days to come, seem to disprove this prophecy, but we believe that we are a long way past the peak of this hill of lawlessness. And we give the main credit to two factors. The efforts toward interracial cooperation and understanding, promoted by such organizations as the committee on interracial cooperation, have acted as a positive solvent of many of the troubles of communities in which the racial question has been acute. And the negro migration, with its consequent effect upon the labor market, has acted as a negative reminder that, in the long run, it will be the lyncher who will suffer most from the economic angle. May the record for the next six months be even better than has been this for the first half of the year!"

RELIGION BY RADIO

SERVICES BY RADIO, it is suggested, may save the country church from the slow dissolution which some observers say is threatening it. Certainly, we are told, in one reported case of spiritual lassitude the radio would be a quick restorer. A writer for *The Universalist Leader* attended two services under extremely different circumstances. On the first occasion he remained at home, listening in to the morning service of a splendidly equipped city church. The music by organ and choir, he says, was delightful; the prayers, the psalm, the Scripture lesson were read as they should be read; the sermon was simple, practical, wholesome. He was glad that he had listened in. A few Sundays later he attended service in a village meeting-house. We will let the writer tell what he heard:

"The music was monstrous. The organ was out of tune and a choir composed of the neighborhood cats would have rendered, or rended, the anthems more effectively. The psalm and Scripture were read in a way that showed the reader had no comprehension of what he was doing. The prayer was an insult to the Creator and a slander to the congregation. The sermon was noisy, silly, unpractical, weak and worthless. When the benediction had been pronounced the writer grabbed his hat and fled to the deep woods, where he could adequately express himself without being overheard.

"The congregation that listened in to the first service probably numbered thousands. The congregation that attended the second service numbered fifty-one, which was forty-five too many, because the minister, the organist and the quartet deserved to torture each other, but had no right to torture the forty-five innocent women and children who sat in pews."

With rhetorical indignation, the writer for *The Universalist Leader* asks how long people in remote rural communities are going to endure such services when they can get something really worth while for very much less trouble and expense. He prophesies a speedy revolution in the conduct of the country church which will perhaps save it from the "utter dissolution toward which it is hastening." He foresees that—

"Instead of the ordinary barnlike meeting-house there will be a chapel good to look at and with an interior suggestive of worship, meditation and prayer. Instead of an organ, there will be a well-equipped radio. Instead of a choir making day hideous, songs will be caught out of the air, in which the congregation may join, led by some one who knows enough to beat time. Instead of a preacher who can not preach but makes up for his defect by noise and bluster, the people will listen to some one who has something to say and knows how to say it. The radio, when a little further perfected, as Marconi assures us it soon will be, must certainly supplant the pitiful and painful service of the ordinary country church.

"And what is to become of the country parson? He will give himself to the work which he can do, that of organizing the social life of the rural community, and superintending the Sunday radio services. To that end he will have to be trained. He will have to know what to do with the boys and girls who now run wild in the village streets; he will have to know what to do with the young men who now loaf about the station and pool-room and tell smutty stories. He will have to know what to do for the women whose chief recreation is gossip, and the men who work, work, work, and have no idea of adequate recreation. We are on the verge of a tremendous revolution in the conduct of the rural church. Let's get ready for it."

The same problem is discust by another writer who tells us in the New York *Times* that there has been a tendency toward a dwindling of congregations, and that, in the absence of any other outstanding cause during the past twelve months, this has been laid by some to the radio. The Rev. Wilbur Caswell, associate to the rector of St. Thomas's Episcopal Church, in

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New York, which broadcasts its services every Sunday, told the *Times* writer that clergymen complain the radio is stealing some of their hearers; that their congregations are more inclined to remain at home and listen to one of the leading pulpit orators in New York than to make the physical exertion of going to church in their own districts, where, at best, they could hear a service of inferior quality compared with that of the metropolitan church. One country church has this dilemma in unique form, says the writer, and gives the incident:

"According to Dr. Caswell, a little Episcopal chapel in Maryland actually rigged up a radio horn in its pulpit one Sunday morning, got in tune with the cathedral in Washington, and the congregation sat in silence while the services of the great church came to them through the instrument. When the preacher in Washington announced a hymn, the congregation got out its hymn-books and sang, too.

"The incident suggests the question, Is this a forecast of the rural church of to-morrow? Will the devotional feature of religious activities become centralized in a large metropolitan center, with the country parishes becoming only provinces of 'ministration,' presided over by pastors whose sole duty will be that of making pastoral calls and officiating at marriages?

"Precisely to what extent the radio has already reacted upon the country churches is impossible, of course, to measure this early. But it is possible to say that if the present drift continues the smaller chapels are likely to be confronted with a situation which may cause them some embarrassment. Either they must devise some method of effectively competing with the metropolitan institutions or they may have to yield to them in this one department of religious activities."

SAYING IT WITH PISTOLS

"MURDER BY MAIL." So a police chief characterizes the mail-order traffic in the pistol—the great American side-arm. Bandits, bootleggers, hi-jackers, professional murderers, and all the stealthy army of gunmen experience no difficulty, we are told, in obtaining the tools of their trade. A few dollars for the gun and a few more cents for the postage, and they have by return mail a weapon that is guaranteed to do the work—to protect the bootlegger from police and hi-jackers and to help the professional gunman earn his murderous living. The accuracy of the guaranty, we are reminded, is evidenced every day in the newspapers. Chief of Police William P. Rutledge, of Detroit, told the International Association of Chiefs of Police, which met recently in Montreal, that 5,000 guns are shipped by mail into Detroit every year, and that other cities suffer from a similar experience. Abolition of the traffic is one of the chief items in the program of the Association, and it is also one of the aims of the American Bar Association. In London, remarks *The Christian Century*, even the police go unarmed. In that city of 7,000,000 people fewer than 100 civilians are licensed to carry pistols, and even burglars are rarely found to have guns. Other countries which control the pistol traffic, says the Chicago journal, are Ireland, Holland, Canada, Japan, Norway, Sweden and Denmark. Here bills designed to control the traffic have been introduced into both houses of Congress, and some of the States and many cities seek through their own laws to control the sale, and practically all forbid carrying concealed weapons without a permit. "The sad fact is, however," comments *The Christian Century*, "that guns are too easily concealed, so that while the law-abiding obey, the lawless do not."

Glance over a gun catalog with the New York *Daily News*, and you will note that "wide-awake merchants are assured by the jobbers that the cataloged articles are very popular and are earning large profits for wide-awake dealers in all parts of the country." This assertion, believes *The News*, will be verified in police reports, coroners' verdicts and criminal court trials, and be further supported by morgue attendants and undertakers. Read on, and note:

"The primary appeal of the trade is to he-men, including dope addicts, feeble-minded citizens, beer-runners, stick-up men, and gentlemen full of moonshine, but it is not restricted to robust masculinity. The slogan is a gun for everybody, one for every member of the family. Ladies' sizes are attractive. In many cases a lady is foolish to write to Doris Blake to ask what to do when her sweetie has taken another girl to the movies. She should look over this catalog, make a selection, and meet him at the door when he comes out of the show. A .25 caliber Baby Peerless is designed for her, 'a small arm adapted for ladies' use, midget in size but a giant in effectiveness. Mother-of-pearl stock $1 additional.' A fastidious lady would want the mother-of-pearl.

"It is recognized that a one-hand gun makes an attractive gift. There is one silver engraved, with mother-of-pearl stock, 'combining beauty, effectiveness and accuracy, artistically engraved and well adapted for gift purposes.' Something to give Gwendolin when she is confirmed or graduated from high school. Archibald probably will want something which a real stick-up man would use, but there is one which might take his eye, and somebody's life. It can be carried in the vest pocket, 'ready for instant use, with perfect safety at all times.' No jury insurance goes with the guaranty of perfect safety, but you know how juries are.

"No one, from grandmother to baby Gertrude, should be without these instruments and decorations of our civilization. When you have an anniversary which calls upon your affections, 'say it with pistols.' Grandmother would be tickled to death with one. You do not know. She may have been wanting to take a shot at grandpa for thirty years, and this would brighten her declining days.

"This is the land of opportunity and the gun jobbers want you to enjoy it, get its thrills, express yourself, and live the free life. It is the land of the one-hand gun, with an abounding population and no lack of openings for the emotions. A pint of synthetic, five gallons of gas, the one-hand gun, and the bells go ting-a-ling-ling for any one you want to pick out—sweetie, auntie, husband, your own or some other body's, a chance acquaintance, or a perfect stranger. It's the life."

The toll of murders and deeds of violence is a national disgrace, asserts the Nashville *Tennessean*, blaming the promiscuous shooting down of people on the ease with which lethal weapons are obtained. Recent news dispatches, says the Nashville paper, told of one mail-order house in Chicago which was shipping out 1,100 pistols per day—"and there are many such houses specializing in pistols." With no weapon within convenient reach, observes the St. Louis *Globe-Democrat*, thousands annually would escape the guilt of murder. "If 90 per cent. of the revolvers in the hands of individuals could be confiscated this week and they were debarred from further purchases, murder statistics for next week would be reduced in almost equal proportion." But Val A. Flynn, writing in the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch*, can not see that anything will be achieved by prohibition of any kind, and he believes that even if the manufacture and sale of pistols were prohibited by law the thugs would be armed just the same. "Any kind of an old gas-pipe will answer the purpose should expert gunsmiths fail," he says. The remedy, thinks Mr. Flynn, lies in education and regulation, and "the more education, the less need for regulation." But as things are, he argues,

"Instead of trying to abolish the pistol, I would encourage its general use. The more citizens are familiar with the pistol and expert in its use, the better for the individuals concerned and for the country at large, particularly in case of a national emergency. Also the less inducement for a thug to take a chance on a hold-up or on entering a home. If all policemen, mail clerks, pay-roll clerks, and others in similar responsible positions were fine shots, willing to use their weapons, the number of hold-ups and murders would dwindle remarkably. Still the police alone can not put an end to the admittedly scandalous situation. It must have the prompt support of the courts. The trial of a suspect should be over within a few months of his apprehension. By that time he should be acquitted or condemned. If the latter, he should be on his way to the prison or the gallows and the court's sentence should not be open to modification except by the President of the United States."

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CURRENT POETRY

Unsolicited contributions to this department can not be returned.

WHETHER you be skeptic or believer, here is a custom old as time, and still practised. The New York *Sun* has it:

EARTH MAGIC

By Helen Ives Gilchrist

Fernando's eyes stare past you gray as rain,
His body's limber as a bough and straight.
You speak to him, he never seems to hear,
And then he answers you a minute late.

His gift—his father had the trick before him—
Makes him a person in the country-side.
Give him a forked stick, cherry or sweet apple,
And he can show you where ground waters hide.

He lurches over our green hills and holds
A fresh branch in his grimy, vise-shut fists,
The fork straight up until the water's near,
Then in his grasp its very fiber twists.

The high point swoops—Fernando stops and waits,
Turns his stick up again and holds it fast!
And when it answers to the water's call,
He nods and grins his weasel grin at last.

"Your spring's right here," he says, "some eight
foot down,
I make it, though I ain't so good on knowin'
The depth as father. He could always tell,
But you dig here, and keep right on a-goin'."

Magic so old, so simple, and so strange!
To be the medium between a spring
Deep underground and a bough's love of it—
Truth has sometimes an odd and pagan ring.

And why Fernando? Scarce articulate
As brooks and windy branches, one with these
He speaks an older language when he tells
The secrets he and earth know and the trees.

The Rocky Mountain News brings forward something in the patter of the day, yet with a quality that is racy of the soil. We think it would "recite" well:

THE RESURRECTION OF DENVER DAN

By John C. Wright

Where the West begins there's many a man
Can tell you the story of Denver Dan:
He lived in the hills in a cabin quaint;
(He wasn't a sinner, nor he wasn't a saint),
Jes' happy-go-lucky as the winds that blow,
When the war broke out an' he had to go.
But soon he returned (a different man);
A coffin held all that was mortal of Dan.
"Them features are his'n," said his own little gal;
"I guss I know daddy, for he was my pal."
"Accept his insurance," the war office said;
"We've looked up his record, and of course he is
dead."
When, sufferin' mackerel, what should they see,
But Dan comin' home like he'd been on a spree!
"How come?" said his neighbors; "we thought
you had died."
"Well, maybe I did, but I'm back," he replied;
"An' jes' fer to show you it's me that's on deck,
Here's the wart on my thumb I was born with, by
heck!"
"It's true!" said his daughter; "I've played with
it often";
So to get at the facts, they dug up the coffin.
Some people affirm the birthmark was there
When the coffin was opened; to this they will
swear,
While others, when questioned, vehemently say
A bullet had carried the wart thumb away.
So out in the West, where the friendships are
stronger,
Where bronchos are busted and shadows grow
longer,
Where people are truthful, there isn't a man
Can tell you exactly what happened to Dan.

Something unusual in the litany of passion is always to be expected from Mr. Percy and this in *The Yale Review* fulfils the rôle:

FOR A WORD

By William Alexander Percy

How shall you ever know the adoration
I spread like samite cloths beneath your feet?
How shall you guess the brooding desolation
Learned from your eyes so passionless and sweet?

There must be some word like the star that pauses
In summer's rose transparency of dusk,
Or like the bird-note heard through slumber's
gauzes
Between the hour of dew, the hour of musk;

There must be some one word that is more tender
Than any word my lips have ever learned
Without which I can never, never render
In speech the love your cool sweet love has earned.

You know as none my heart's forlorn distresses,
Its passionate tides, its daily tint and glow;
Why must there be within obscure recesses
This tenderness of love you cannot know?

Here is an unconventional view of heaven, and it has the sanction of *The Christian Century*, where we find it.

HOLLYHOCKS

By Wayne Gard

The streets of heaven, I've been told,
Are paved with bricks of solid gold;

The gates are all of precious stone,
And poverty's a thing unknown;

No thunder-showers enter there,
For every day is dazzling fair.

Yet, strangely, I have never heard
A flower mentioned, or a bird;

And I'm quite sure that I would tire
Of playing on a golden lyre.

So, if there's room, along the walks
I think I'll plant some hollyhocks;

And soon as they begin to grow
I'll tend them with a golden hoe.

If Gabriel should pass my way,
I'm certain he'd sit down and stay.

The Quill (New York) is a devotedly Greenwich Village organ, and it often contains good verse. Here is a bit that does not in the least fill out the modern idea of insurgent youth:

YOUTH PROTESTS

By Elizabeth Dillingham

Let those who sing the joys of youth be still
And for a while consider what they say.
From early dawn to twilight close of day,
Year in, year out, the foolish graybeards fill
The patient air with reminiscence shrill
Of "carefree seventeen" and "joyous, gay,
Light-hearted twenty"—quite forgetting they
Found life, when young, as now, a bitter pill.

Oh, sages, if to bury cherished dreams,
Daily, with trembling fingers; if to wake
Sobbing, at midnight and not knowing why;
If, to grope blindly for a truth that seems
Forever just beyond one, is to make
Of life a carefree dance, your babbling is no lie.

This poem, "The Fowler," has been awarded the fifty-guinea prize offered by the London *Bookman* in its Lyric Contest. The poems were all submitted anonymously, we are told, "and eight other well-known English poets, whose names the editors tactfully withhold, were among the contestants."

THE FOWLER

By Wilfrid Gibson

A wild bird filled the morning air
With dewy-hearted song;
I took it in a golden snare
Of meshes close and strong.

But where is now the song I heard?
For all my cunning art,
I who would house a singing bird
Have caged a broken heart.

The conversion of Constantine is given noble expression in these lines in the London *Spectator:*

CONSTANTINE IS SHOWN THE CROSS

By Herbert E. Palmer

An owl in a tree-top hooted; and he woke;
Then cast aside the lion-skin coverlet;
And turning softly on his couch of leaves
Gazed into the night, his eyes blinded with tears,
And his lonely spirit cried, and his tongue unlocked.

"Strengthen my hands, O gods of Greece," he
prayed,
"Help me, ye deities who guard our fanes!
Or is it that ye are not?—blind and dumb.
Help me some god who made these lesser gods;
Send me a sign to tell me who Thou art.
If prayer can move Thee, I will bring Thee down.
Come to my aid, bright Spirit of the skies."

A whimper shook the stillness of the night,—
The wolves were running underneath the pines,
For Darkness manifested her decrees.

And then he raised his head, and stared—amazed:
Above the flaunting, peering, midnight moon,
Where all men's eyes might see it, hung *a Sign*.

Browning would have been amazed could he have seen this portrait of himself, some lineaments of which are no doubt true and lifelike. It interested *The English Review* (London), where we find it, perhaps as it interests us—as an Oriental view:

TO ROBERT BROWNING

A Japanese Appreciation

By Yone Noguchi

You are a smoking-room story-teller of the pageant
of life seen by senses,
Your gusto in speech turns your art into obscurity,
Again from the obscurity into a valedictory:
You are a provincialism endorsed by eccentric
pride.
You are sometimes riotous to escape from anarchism.
Your great thirst for expression makes you a soul-wounding romancer,
You often play the mystagogue, and appear cruel.
You are a glutton of colourful adventures.
You are a troubadour serenading between the
stars and Life,
Your love song on a guitar torments us even
physically;
You are a realist who under the darkness purifies
himself into the light of optimism;
You are a griffin wildly dancing on human laughter.

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PERSONAL GLIMPSES

Photographs by courtesy of *ASIA* (New York)

A "HEROINE" WHO EXPRESSES THE BEAUTY AND POETRY OF HIS NATIVE LAND

Mei Lan-Fang, China's leading actor, and the manager of his own company, capitalizes his slender build, girlish face, and youthful appearance as an impersonator of some of the most effective feminine rôles ever presented on any stage.

THE GENTLEMANLY "LEADING LADY" OF CHINA

ROMANTIC HEROINES, stage presences of surpassing grace and beauty from all ages, have found a rival player in China, Land of Flowers as well as of many other things more commonly talked about but not so pleasant. "May Lonfong," as the Chinese name Mei Lan-Fang is pronounced, has won a place as the stage-idol of China. The Chinese masses have reached such a degree of adoration for this player, reports an American lately returned from Shanghai, that a manager who displays the famous name over the door of his theater is always sure of a crowded house, and "officials and wealthy business men bid against one another for the privilege of paying huge sums for private performances." The famous young actor, said to be notable for his intelligence, his theoretical training and his general culture, as well as for the popularity of his performances, is chiefly an impersonator of feminine rôles. Every traveler in China hears of him. When the Chinese Government entertains a distinguished foreign visitor, it appears, Mei Lan-Fang gives a performance "that is the *pièce de résistance* of the Oriental splendors of hospitality." Also, reports A. E. Zucker, who publishes some recent impressions of China's "leading lady" in *Asia* (New York):

Americans who entertain Chinese friends in Peking generally resort also to Mei Lan-Fang. A few years ago a group of American bankers paid him $4,000 for a half-hour of acting and singing. It is true that this especially large price was paid for that imponderable Oriental asset known as "face," because a group of Japanese bankers had tried shortly before to impress their Chinese guests by paying Mei Lan-Fang $1,000 for an evening's entertainment.

For five years I observed Mei Lan-Fang's work, and I believe that he deserves all his fame. I understand, however, how some who have heard him sing in his falsetto voice and have seen him act a "slow" play, or opera, if you will, in the conventionalized Chinese manner, to the accompaniment of a screeching violin and ear-splitting brass cymbals, may feel that they would have been willing to pay a good sum to be excused from the performance. Keenly as I myself am interested in the Chinese drama, especially when interpreted by Mei Lan-Fang, I realize that it is not the finished product found in our theater. There are no great Chinese tragedies to place by the side of Shakespeare's; no profound comedies such as Molière's; no plays so closely knit as are our good detective plays. As for staging, the Chinese are centuries behind us there.

Yet any one who laughs at the conventions of the Chinese stage, insists Mr. Zucker, simply displays his provincialism. For, he points out:

In many respects they are almost identical with those of the Elizabethan stage. Moreover, there is in some of our theaters at present an extreme reaction against pedantic imitations of the externalities of every-day life. The make-believe of the Chinese theater is happily free from these devices that deaden the imagination. The rug on the floor of the projecting stage, with its bright-colored back drop and curtainless front, is a magic carpet that carries the actors without change of scenery from Mongolia to Tibet, from the market-place to the audience-hall in the palace, from the forest to the prison. It is necessary only to walk about a little or to go out by the left-hand door and reappear immediately afterward through the right-hand door. Darkness is indicated by a candle, lamp or lantern, lighted or unlighted, and the passage of time at night, by the beating of the kettle-drum. The waving of flags shows that a high wind is blowing, and the tossing of flakes of paper into the air by a property-man in full view of the audience creates a snow-storm. To cross a door-sill, an actor raises his feet about eight inches off the floor as he steps. To open or close a door, he lifts both hands and goes through the pantomime of drawing a bolt and moving a door. If he is playing the part of a general who ascends a hill to review a battle or crosses a mountain, he climbs to a chair or a table.

In costume, properties and business much is typical and

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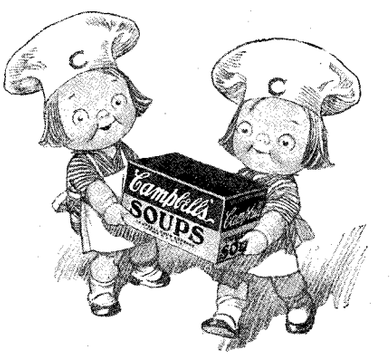
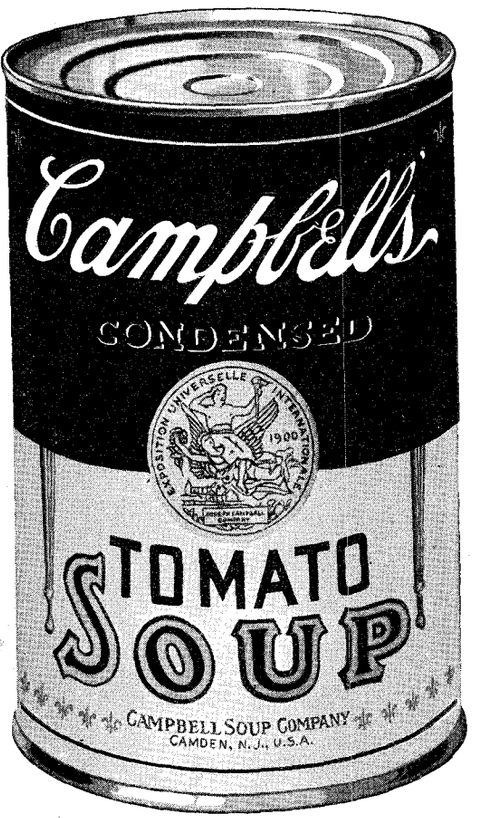
Who are the world's most famous soup chefs?

Beyond all contradiction
Through merit and through worth—
A truth that passes fiction—
Our soups go round the earth!





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So now soup means something so much better that thousands of people who seldom ate soup before, do not let a day go by without enjoying Campbell's!

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LUNCHEON DINNER SUPPER

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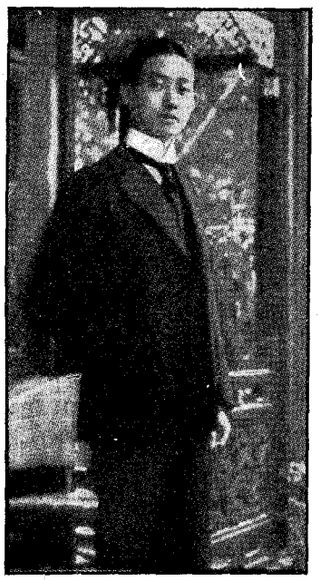
symbolic. Head-dresses, veils and facial make-up are especially important. A high military officer is readily recognizable by the four pheasant feathers, sometimes as long as six feet, in his head-dress. The Chinese call them "back-protecting feathers," because they are supposed to ward off the blows of swords. Similarly the paint on the faces of the warriors can be traced to a utilitarian purpose: a famous Chinese warrior of a thousand years ago whose scholarly face looked unmartial painted it in a gruesome manner, to inspire fear in his enemies. The color schemes for well-known warriors attempt to follow the descriptions of them in novels or books of history. But there are many fixt customs about color. A face painted pure white, for instance, denotes a wicked person, and an unpainted face means a good character. Only a good character ever has a mustache. Pure red designates an honest and faithful man, and gold a heavenly being. Several colors applied unevenly proclaim a robber. The white nose is the mark of the clown. Gods and spirits carry a horsehair switch and are announced by the slight tapping of the gong. Ghosts wear black veils over their heads or bundles of strips of paper under their right ears. Whenever any character from the world beyond, god or ghost, appears, fireworks, usually in the form of large flames emitted several times from an oil-lamp, are set off by a stage-hand. Monks and nuns also carry the horsehair switch, perhaps because of their "spiritual" lives. A bride can be recognized by the red veil on her head. Good officials wear square hats; wicked officials, round hats. A sick person has a yellow cloth over his face. A character who has just died has his face covered with a red cloth.



AS HIMSELF

China's famous actor-manager has climbed to his present high position from a class but little above the coolies.

For new situations, which have been developed in recent times, new symbols, of course, must be invented. For instance, writes Mr. Zucker:

In a play based on a story in the novel called "The Three Kingdoms," a guest who hears his host sharpening a butcher-knife fears the worst and runs off the stage. The host, however, is only preparing to kill the fatted pig in honor of the visitor. An actor with a black cloth thrown over his head and back walks on the stage in a stooping posture, driven forward by another actor's stick and making those deviations from the right path by which a pig exasperates the swineherd. The actor-pig finally walks up to a chair, on which he can rest his hands in comfort while the business of slaughtering is done in pantomime. The cloth is then removed, and the man, now neither pig nor actor, walks off the stage erect. Somewhat similarly, a man committing suicide by drowning performs a leap as if he were jumping into a well and then quickly runs off the stage.

Tho Chinese drama is a case of arrested development, it has the merit of being a thoroughly popular art. It presents the old legends of the nation, the famous novels familiar to the masses, intrigues such as occur on every hand, the music of the various provinces and the moral ideals of the four hundred millions. In fact, the Chinese consider the theater fit for the gods; for whenever the people of a village wish to thank or appease their deities, they give dramatic performances for the pleasure of the gods and, incidentally, of themselves.

Because the theater, which is in a manner the mirror of the Chinese nation, presents a drama so exotic to the western mind, it is perhaps best to approach it through Mei Lan-Fang, the most widely known Chinese actor and, at the same time, an extremely intelligent and progressive artist.

Since Mei Lan-Fang is an actor and his ancestors were actors, he comes from the lowest class of society. In the otherwise extremely democratic organization of the Chinese Empire, where the poorest boy could rise to wealth and fame by virtue of passing the literary examinations in the capital, sons of prostitutes, lictors and actors were barred from competing for government posts. This system of examinations was abolished in 1907, but the social disqualification was felt by Mei Lan-Fang, who is now just thirty years old. He grew up in the atmosphere of poverty and vice that enveloped youthful actors in pre-revolutionary Peking. The childhood of an actor is no bed of roses in a land where the struggle for existence is so desperate that 90 per cent. constantly hover near the starvation line. In the Chinese city of Peking one meets frequently a long line of boys with prematurely old faces, ranging from eight to sixteen years, marching seriously and apathetically under the stern eye of a preceptor—the pupils of an actors' training-school. These little "brethren of the pear-orchard," as Chinese actors are called, begin their interminable lessons at sunrise.

Under a master "whose cruel discipline would make Dotheboys Hall seem a pleasant place for week-ends," continues the writer, "they must learn to sing in the shrill, falsetto voice characteristic of the Chinese theater. When a sharp wind blows Peking dust in a gale":

They are taken out to sing against the storm, for the sake of hardening their throats. The competition for a livelihood as an actor is deadly. Three boys' theaters are training hundreds of boys, tho about two thousand actors are already out of work in Peking or are being hired by the day for about twenty coppers' reward for their long hours of labor. In such an environment, drab and unpromising, Mei Lan-Fang faced existence.

But he had talents destined to bring him to the highest position in his art. He had been trained, because of his slender build, girlish face and high voice to act the *hua-tan*, the flowery maiden who treads the primrose path. This figure appears regularly in Chinese plays in the rôle of servant-girl, lady's maid or *demi-mondaine*. The method pursued by most tyro actors is to attempt to approximate down to the minutest mannerisms the style of the actor at the top of their special class. Mei Lan-Fang, however, decided to copy nature instead. He introduced into his acting female traits and foibles observed in the women about him, and by this freshness in his style pleased his audiences. He was gradually accorded more and more prominent parts, until, twelve years ago, he was voted in the annual contest conducted by a Peking newspaper, the most popular interpreter of female rôles in the capital. The actors selected by such balloting as the best "lovers," "warriors," "old men," "old women" and the various other conventional types can count their fortunes as made. After he had been chosen as the most popular interpreter of female rôles, Mei Lan-Fang commanded $50 to $100 for one regular daily performance and for private performances some such amounts as have already been mentioned. He organized his own company, made a triumphal tour through Japan and began to fill annual engagements in Shanghai, the "Paris of China."

IN CHARACTER

Mei Lan-Fang looks like this when playing a modern young lady of Shanghai, in an up-to-date Chinese play.

Many Pekingese who wish to see Mei Lan-Fang send their servants to the theater to hold seats for them. These coolies in blue cotton seize good seats in the almost empty theater at one o'clock and warm them until half-past five, at the same time drinking tea, chewing water-melon-seeds, smoking cigarets, gossiping blandly with their neighbors and paying about as much attention to the action on the stage as we do to the music in a restaurant. Now approaches the hour for the star, and the masters, mostly sleek Chinese merchants, displace the coolies, who shrink inconspicuously toward the exit. At once the waiters are on hand with tea-pots. Tea with watermelon-seeds

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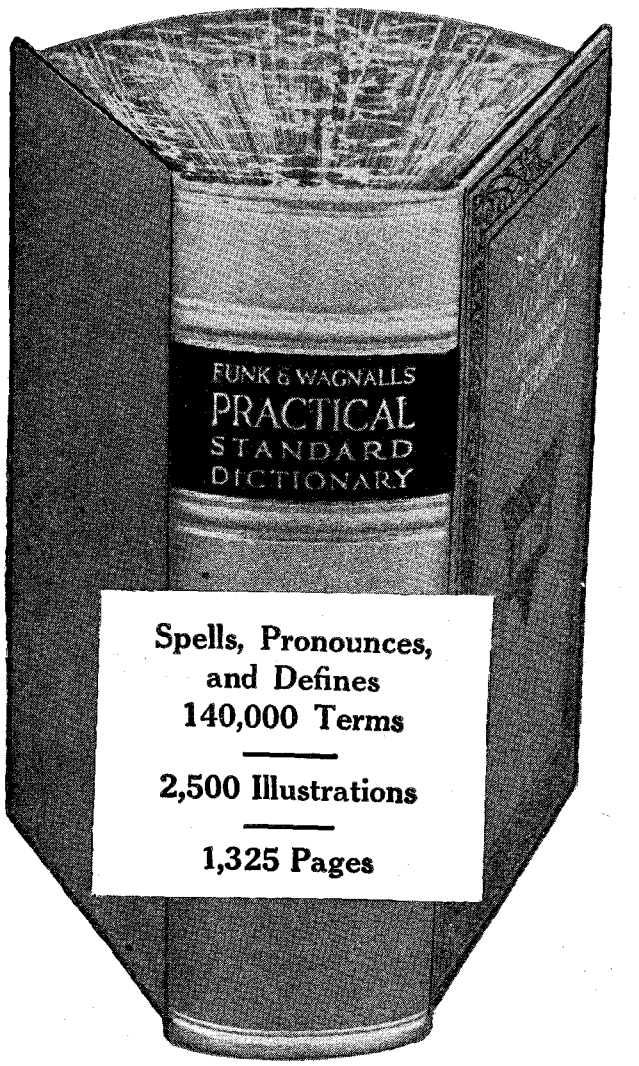

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is, as they say in the Moulin Rouge, "*obligatoire.*" Playgoers are free, however, to refuse three score flies resting on a bar of candy, eggs of uncertain age or apples just soft enough for the pelting of an actor. At the tables all around, men are audibly sipping tea, eating dishes of steaming viands and wiping faces and hands on hot towels. A waiter at the rear of the hall throws tightly wrapt bundles of these steaming towels toward the front, where another deftly catches them and throws back the soiled ones. The bundles are continually soaring overhead like bats under the rafters.

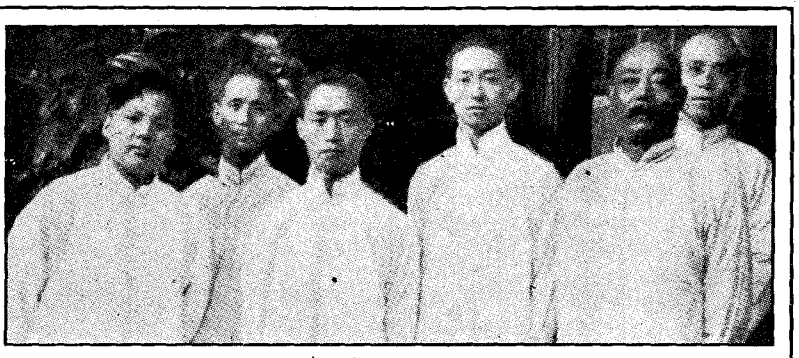
The indifferent actors have been on the stage for hours, impersonating famous emperors, cunning counselors or ancient sages. One short play or part of a play after the other, each lasting thirty to forty-five minutes, has been going on without intermission since noon. The fact that no pause is made between the plays often leads foreigners to believe that Chinese dramas are of serpentine length, tho in reality they are no longer than the separate numbers of our continuous vaudeville. The orchestra leader merely beats a few short notes on a gong, and the stage is set for the next play. When the hour for the star has finally come, a special flute-player takes his seat as leader of the orchestra and sends out soft, wistful notes that contrast gratefully with the brass din of the preceding battle-scene.

With tense interest Mei Lan-Fang is awaited, for to-day he is to play "A Young Nun Seeks Love." At last:

With light, mincing step he enters in a long nun's gown of white silk, over which he wears a white coat dotted with a diamond pattern in light blue. He alternately sings and recites the story to orchestral accompaniment.

"A pitiful existence is that of the nun with the shaven head! At night only a lone lantern consorts me to sleep. Time quickly pursues one to old age, leaving only the memory of a monotonous youth.

"For the price of a little sympathy I would be willing to go to the palace of the King of Hell, to be ground up in the mortar, cut into bits by the saw, crusht between the millstones or seethed in burning oil."



THE CHINESE STAR WITH HIS STAFF

Mei is third from the left. The others include experts in dramatization and in scenic effects. There is also, as an improvement on our own theatrical staffs, a distinguished scholar whose advice in literary matters the actor-manager is said to value highly.

The girl feels so cramped in her cell that she decides to enter the large hall filled with the statues of five hundred saints, or *lohans*, and Buddhas. Since the stage is absolutely bare, Mei at this point goes through the pantomime of opening a door and closing it again behind him. Then he utters quaint meditations before the various lohans and the figure of the "laughing" or "big-stomach" Buddha, who seems to say, "Why waste the precious days of sweet youth?" At last comes the decision to risk all on the chance that love may be found. In a graceful dance Mei moves off the stage. The young girl has gone into the "black world," as the Buddhist nuns call life outside the convent walls.

"The Slave-Girl Plays Tricks on the Old Schoolmaster" is a little farce that Mei Lan-Fang presents in a droll manner. The slave-girl is the type of impertinent servant employed by all writers of comedy from Menander to Bernard Shaw. When the old scholar, an amusing figure in Ming costume, asks the girl to recite, she does so with the swaying body motion that our urchins fall into when they "say their piece." She catches a fly off the teacher's face and, in mixing ink, spits in his eye. When he sets out to beat her, she seizes the switch and, as he pulls, lets go, so that he is thrown back into his chair and rolls over on the floor with a tremendous crash. After many similar indignities, the pedagog decides to teach in that house no longer. As he leaves the room, the audience sees that the slave-girl has pinned on his back a picture of a turtle—than which there is no greater insult in all the Middle Kingdom!

Stage-fighting has been developed in China into an intricate art with many cut-and-dried conventions and a minimum of realism, says Mr. Zucker. It appears that:

The warriors fly at each other, but they never hit with their swords or spears. Each man simply makes quick passes, whirling about, throwing his weapon into the air and catching it or spinning his spear, very much as a drum-major does a baton. All the while the orchestra is playing loud, wild music, the kind that Thomas Moore's Mr. Fudge would call "the music of the spears," for every tone seems to pierce the listener. In stage armies one man carrying a banner signifies a thousand men. The issue of the battle is indicated merely by the fact that the defeated warrior leaves the stage first, while his victorious opponent makes a sort of bow to the audience and then struts off with dignified step. Sometimes a spear is thrown at a soldier, who catches it and sinks to the ground, clutching it to his breast, to show that he has been wounded; then he runs off quickly, a dead man.

Another favorite among Mei Lan-Fang's plays is "Burying the Blossoms." A young wife, disappointed in her marriage, finds the garden path covered with fallen blossoms. In these flowers, broken from their stems and crusht under foot, she sees the image of herself, a girl whose parents are dead and who is neglected by every one. She takes pity on the flowers and, placing them in a silk bag, buries them under a tree. As she is shedding tears over the little mound, her husband comes upon her. The explanation that follows effects a deepening of their love.

Of the real character of Mei Lan-Fang, who has so many characters upon the stage, very little is known among foreigners in China. It is evident that he has a kindly heart; for every year he contributes his services to a dramatic entertainment arranged by American missionaries to provide shelter for rickshaw-runners during the bitter Peking winters. It may be inferred that he is pious; for he makes an annual pilgrimage to Chieh-t'ai-shan—the traditional shrine of actors—a mountain temple three days distant from Peking. It is certain that he is shy. Artists eager to paint his portrait have never been able to secure him as a sitter, and those who wish to meet him may count themselves very lucky if, like me, they at last secure an interview in the typical Chinese fashion through some friends of some friends of his friends.

On the day when I called, Mei Lan-Fang was wearing a long white silk gown, the customary hot-weather dress of the Chinese gentleman. Some of the coyness that gives so true a ring to his stage presentations of young ladies clings to him off the stage. He seems like a charming, slightly effeminate boy of seventeen. Tho of the frail, willowy build demanded in a Chinese beauty, he is not languid, but sparkling with vivacity. His voice is high, gentle and soft, very much like that of one of his heroines.

All in all, Mei seems more like a youthful scholar than an actor. There is not the slightest touch of Bohemianism about him. His favorite avocations are music and drawing: opium-smoking and other fashionable dissipations do not appeal to him. He has for a close friend and daily companion a learned scholar, with whom he makes researches in ancient works dealing with the drama. With great pride he showed me his extensive library, lingering long over a neatly written text of a play copied by his grandfather, who had been musician to the great actor Tan. Like most other men who achieve distinction, he is in love with his work and devotes himself to it night and day.

His greatness lies in the fact that he is able to introduce bold reforms into the theater without cutting himself off from tradition. His attitude toward music is a case in point. The old Empress Dowager, showing her usual bad taste, had made fashionable in Peking a Mongolian style of music, intended for open-air theaters on the wind-swept plains and, in a roofed theater, absolutely ear-splitting. Mei Lan-Fang is returning to traditional Chinese music, in which the soft notes of the flute prevail. When he plays in Japan or in the European theater in Peking, he removes the ill-clothed orchestra from the stage; but he can not do this in the native theaters, where strong tradition insists that the "noise" (as the musicians were called in Shakespeare's day) must sit on the stage and destroy the illusion, for the foreigners at least. He is very fond of western music and hopes ultimately to win over his audiences to an appreciation of the piano and the violin, which would enable him to enrich his musical repertoire.

Even the most hidebound theater devotees and connoisseurs must recognize the skill of his acting and the beauty of his enunciation, and therefore they are not unfriendly to the touch of strangeness in his performances.

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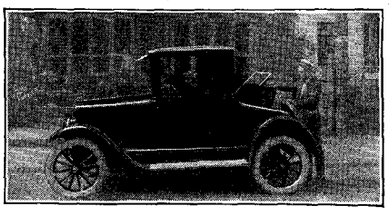

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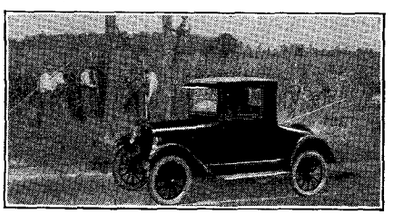

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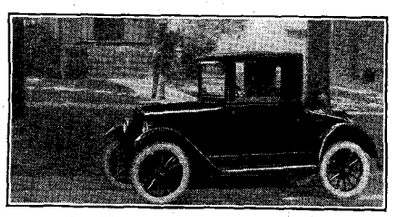

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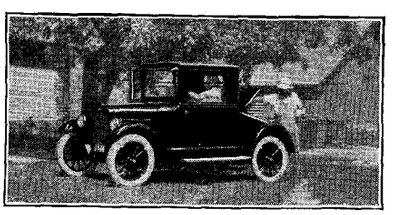

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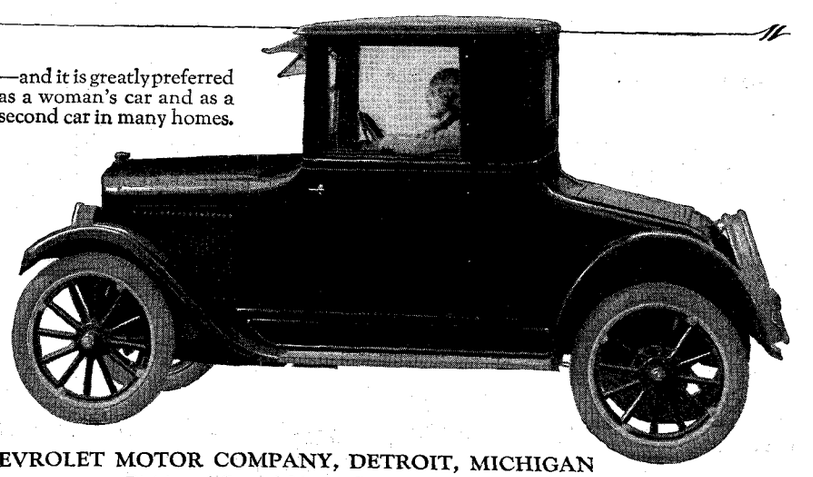

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A GRANDMOTHERS' CLUB, AND ITS PRESIDENT

"MEMBERS OF THIS CLUB must be at least seventy years young," runs one of the rules of an organization of grandmothers, that started in Florida and is said to be spreading into other parts of the country. The idea, according to a writer in the Springfield (Mass.) *Union*, belonged originally to an Indiana woman who has a winter home in Miami, Florida. She invited six grandmothers, one of them her own mother, to have tea with her in her Florida home, and proposed that they organize a club. This was more than four years ago, and since then, reports a writer in *The American Magazine*, the original sponsor of the club, Mrs. Grace Porterfield Polk, has become interested in the possibilities of organizing other grandmothers into clubs. The old ladies themselves conceived the idea of calling themselves the Cardinal Club, after the cardinal bird, and much of their time is given to studying music, altho plays, poetry and current events have been added to their program. On one occasion, says Edna M. Colman, writing in *The American Magazine*:

Each member of the Cardinal Club came prepared to sing her favorite song, and drest to represent it.

The president sang a ballad she had learned eighty-five years before. All of the songs were old, and the quaint old hoopskirts, queer bonnets, reticules, lace mitts, and flounced and frilled gowns were like a pageant of style of nearly three-quarters of a century ago, particularly when the old ladies danced the Virginia Reel, and then gathered about the tea-cups to chat.

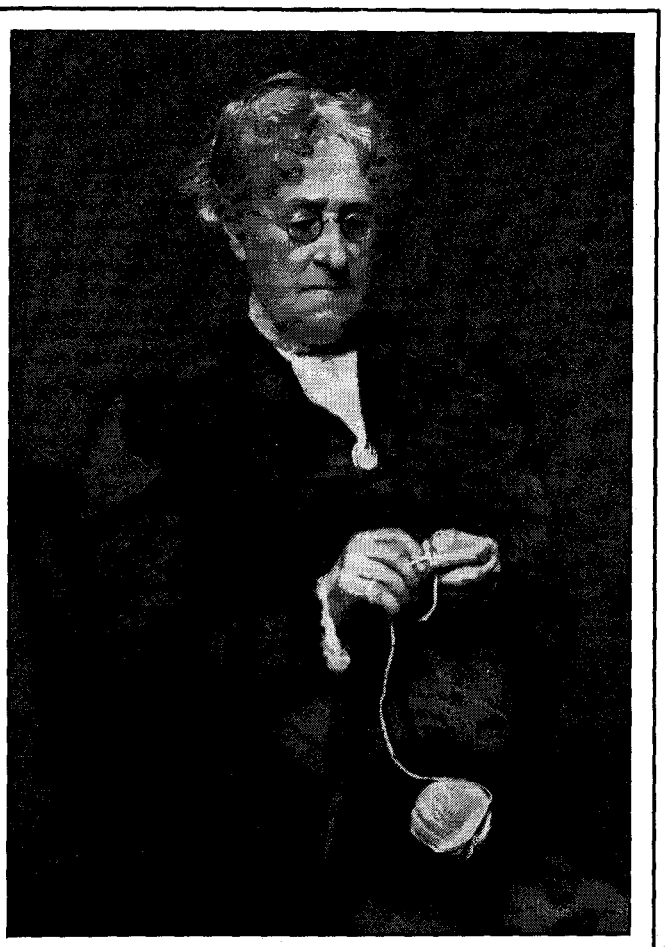
The joy and exhilaration of turning back the pages of their lives for an hour brought faint tinges of pink to wrinkled cheeks, and a sparkle to eyes that were growing dim. Reminiscences that only such a group as this could enjoy poured forth spontaneously. With the singing of the beloved old songs, memories turned to the days of youth and romance, and many a pretty story was disclosed.

Upon another occasion the hostess to the club provided the elements for a "Make-Believe Party." Dolls, toy dishes, musical toys, and fans suggested that each one tell a story of her first doll, her first tea-party, and her first ball.

What a wealth of charming word pictures rolled forth under this stimulus! Scenes of early life in all sections of the country—crude, primitive, or elegant, in which some of the big national events and great heroes of our early days figured, were described anew.

In the happiness growing out of their beloved club these women desire above all things to do something that will be of benefit to other people. They have furnished a room in the City Hospital with the most exquisite of hand-embroidered and hand-sewn linens, and have bought cribs for the children's hospital. Besides this, they have made it possible for one of their number to have a long-desired pleasure trip that would otherwise have been impossible.

The club's president, Mrs. Anna E. King, is a great-grandmother, ninety-two years old, who has several opinions of her own about the world to-day. A representative of the Springfield *Union*, who called on her in her Enfield, Connecticut, home, reports:



THE GREAT-GRANDMOTHER PRESIDENT OF THE GRANDMOTHERS' CLUB

Mrs Anna E. King of Enfield, Conn., is ninety-two years old, but that doesn't seem so old in a club where every member must be "at least seventy years young."

In black-and-white silk, with a soft lavender scarf about her shoulders, she is lovely to look upon. Her white hair she wears parted in the middle and coiled at the back. Her eyes are still blue and still shining with the interest she has in life.

"Tho our club is primarily a social organization," said Mrs. King, "we have done many worthwhile things. One of our first gifts was to the Children's Hospital in Miami, $50 for cradles. We have made all the linen for a room in the City Hospital, too, and many people have admired the stitches and the embroidery in that linen. Once, too, we sent a musician friend of ours to a national convention she could not otherwise have attended. We still believe that famous line about the candle."

Mrs. King came to Enfield Street as a bride in 1853 and has lived in Enfield ever since. The old King property has been sold, and in fulfilment of one of the dreams of the last owner is to be the site of a new school.

"I was born in New York," said Mrs. King, "but at the age of six came to Windsor to live with my grandmother. In Windsor I had one of my most interesting experiences. For two terms when I was sixteen, and while I was myself getting ready to enter Mt. Holyoke Female Seminary I taught the school in our district. I had fifty children, many of them as old as I was. The teacher before me had failed, too, but I had no trouble and have always been glad for the experience.

"Every young woman should be equipped to earn her living in case some change in her circumstances should make this necessary. It was a disappointment to my mother that after graduation from college I didn't teach a year, but I was married instead.

"Yes, I belong to the Class of '52," Mrs. King continued. "I suppose I am one of the oldest graduates now living. Those were great days. I'll never forget how my fourth-floor room looked to me when, as a girl of seventeen, I saw it for the first time. Bare it was and small, a table, a bed, two chairs and a Franklin stove. I especially remember the stove.

"My favorite subjects were Latin and mathematics. Even in those early days we had courses in economics and in political questions, altho none of us thought then of women having the vote."

"The young people to-day are very different from those of her college days, Mrs. King thinks. According to the reporter, some of the great-grandmother President's opinions run:

"The girls are a bit hoydenish, tho kindly intentioned. Bobbed hair can never be pretty, for her hair is a woman's crowning glory. Of course, little girls look well in bobbed hair and enjoy the freedom it gives, but once a girl is woman-grown, bobbed hair is inappropriate.

"I danced, of course, in my young days," continued Mrs. King, "but graceful, pretty dances like the minuet. There is nothing to these modern dances.

"At one of our Cardinal Club programs we danced a minuet. I found I had forgotten many of the steps in that, but I could still do a Virginia Reel with a good deal of enthusiasm.

"Part of the trouble with the modern dance is the modern music. I dislike 'jazz.' It's all noise and no melody, but the college boys seem to get a good deal of fun out of it.

"The old songs have something about them that makes them worth remembering. At one of our meetings I sang a ballad I learned eighty-five years ago. Other members of the club sang their favorite songs, too. That was a costume party, and every one had such a pleasant time."

Club programs always open with "America" and close with

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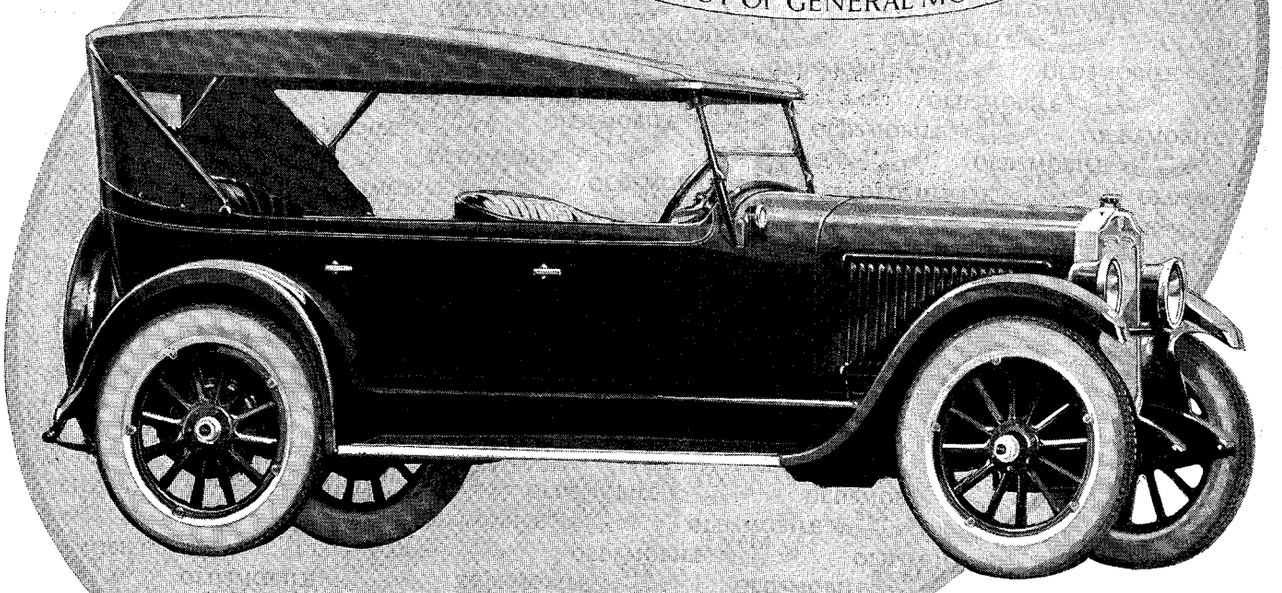

New Beauty outside—but same good chassis 40,000 owners know!

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"The Star Spangled Banner." But all this mention of old songs and patriotic songs doesn't mean that the grandmothers spend all of their time reminiscing. No, indeed. They study classic music quite seriously. One winter they spent much time on opera. It greatly surprized a visitor at one of those meetings to hear the president remark in a most casual manner that she had "been studying Faust all week."

In addition to music there are often papers on art and other subjects. One meeting was devoted to accounts of the various States which each member represented. Mrs. King read a paper on "Connecticut." At another time she gave an account of early days at Mt. Holyoke, not omitting the pranks of seventy years ago.

Mrs. King has two little great-granddaughters, now twelve and thirteen. A few years ago in her farewell address for that year to the club she spoke of them in a way that shows as few words can something of what it means to be a grandmother.

"I have two dear little great-granddaughters. They come to my room in the morning with their arms full of flowers—pansies, daffodils and lilacs—the first flowers of the spring. They bring their large box of paper dolls, make a house for them with my chairs, then carry on all kinds of imaginary functions—visits and housekeeping, in which I must join. They 'make believe' they are Grandma King, go to my dressing-table and arrange their hair with my fancy combs and pins, to my bandbox to find my best bonnet with the white bow under the chin, wrap my black shawl about them, seize my cane and glasses, and the one asks the other to support her with an arm. Then with short, mincing steps, 'afraid of that which is high' they go out to call upon the other members of the household. The center of their pranks and plays is my room. They bring their lesson papers to me to note their progress in multiplication or division, also their copybooks showing their struggles in writing, which is oft-times difficult to decipher—but I must pass remarks upon it."

And in conclusion she wrote, "In laying down the heavier burdens of life, we have a new great pleasure to which few, comparatively, attain."

As she finished reading this address, Mrs. King discovered that she had forgotten her glasses.

Her splendid eyesight has enabled her to keep up her reading until very recently, and even now she gets through a good many books in a year by having them read aloud. Just now she has finished the second volume of Thompson's "Outline of Science." Wells she doesn't enjoy. As a historian he is too uncertain.

Tho she has read enough of the new novels to discover what they are about, she finds them for the most part ephemeral. She likes biography and thoroughly enjoyed "The Americanization of Edward Bok," "The Education of Henry Adams," and Strachey's "Queen Victoria." Among older books of this class she found Stoddart's "Life of the Empress Eugénie" and La Brière's "Life of Madame Louise of France," most entertaining.

If all Cardinal Club members are as good "sports" as Mrs. King, then sportsmanship must be a principle of the club. Recently in a card game, which she plays frequently with her maid and companion, she reproved the young woman for playing carelessly.

"But, Mrs. King," came the protest, "I should think you wouldn't mind my stupid plays since they are always to your advantage."

"I like to beat a partner who is fully alert," replied Mrs. King. "Only then is victory any real satisfaction."

Bits of darning exquisitely done still fill odd minutes of Mrs. King's time, and she is just finishing a full luncheon set of crocheted doilies to go into the hope chest of one of her granddaughters.

The club's organizer, Mrs. Polk, thinks that the grandmothers' club idea might do more good if given wider circulation. She is quoted by *The American Magazine* to this effect:

"There are many grandmothers who are content with things as they are. But there are hosts of other old ladies all over the country who are lonely. Most of them can never come to Miami to find the Cardinal Club, so the idea of the club ought to be taken to them.

"There's not a city, or even a small town, that couldn't make its grandmothers happier, and make itself happier, by doing something for the old folks. Club women, church women, and social leaders everywhere ought to take a census of the grandmothers who are over seventy, and help them organize clubs for their own pleasure.

"Neither money nor talent is needed to make the old ladies happier. Just a little appreciation and a little effort is all that is required. The enthusiasm of the Miami club proves that the grandmothers don't want to retire from active social life. Suggest that they form clubs of their own, and you will see how eager they are for something to do."

"FALLEN ANGELS" ON BROADWAY, AT $7 PER HEAD

PRINCESSES, GENERALS AND GENIUSES, scions of European nobility of various ranks and titles, have descended upon Broadway, New York, in such numbers that the jobs of "extras" in the various theatrical productions have taken on new glamour. Seven dollars a head is considered a fair price for beautiful women and imposing men whose heads were once adorned with regal ornaments, reports the New York *American*. These "fallen angels" of Europe are now herded into mob scenes as nameless "supers," greatly to their benefit, since most of them are "broke," as well as to the benefit of the theater-goers who like high-class backgrounds. If it hadn't been for the arrival on these shores of the Princess Agatha Pennesco, a Roumanian notable, the secret of the latest group of fallen angels might never have been unearthed, says the *American* reporter, who deposes further:

The Princess is young, lovely and intellectual, and has as much blue blood in her veins as she has ideas in her pretty head. The wife of a distinguished Roumanian Senator, she made a trip to the United States two years ago. Her great passion was to see her native land economically rebuilt, but her patriotism was hampered by personal privations, despite the fact that her husband, Constantin Pennesco, was a whip of the Liberal party and hailed as a probable Cabinet member.

The Princess, discarding her title, arrived in America simply as "Madame Paleologue," last fall, just at the time when Morris Gest, the theatrical impresario, was assembling the populous cast for Max Reinhardt's huge pantomime, "The Miracle."

For this production a vast number of supernumeraries or "extras" was needed. What Gest and Reinhardt particularly wanted was young and striking-looking ladies—not women—who could put fire and dash into the briefest gestures and convey intense "mob emotion"—for a modest stipend.

So during the months that "The Miracle" thrilled Manhattan with its color, movement and lights, a real, certified princess—Madame Paleologue, no less—capered, shouted and shook a tambourine as a mad, exquisite gipsy. And no one "out front" had the slightest suspicion that this small cog in the gigantic machinery of the play was of the blood royal.

Discovery of the Princess Pennesco in the surging crowds of the spectacle led to the surmise that, in that array of whirling figures, there might be hidden other foreign celebrities, whose stars of fortune had been dimmed by the war and who were mixing with the $7-a-head mob for obvious reasons.

Quiet inquiries were made—and startling disclosures followed. It was found that one of the most arrestingly beautiful of the unprogrammed maidens was in reality the Princess Manuella Soutzo, whose throbbing soprano lent luster to certain chants. A granddaughter of the Prince of Valachio, a Roumanian province, Princess Manuella, like the lovely Agatha, had decided to discard her title.

High-born, exotic ladies, bred in luxury's lap, weren't the only living wonders of the play's "extra" list. There were men, too, who had been millionaires, but whom Fate had cast ruthlessly into the "super" class, as if cruelly forgetful of their past achievements.

Consider the case of Vladimir Volotskoy. Before 1914 he had been a Major-General in the Russian Army, and from Archangel to Odessa he was also famous as the "Milk King of Muscovy." When the Romanoff throne was hacked to shreds, the new insurgent government seized the Volotskoy plants, and the General saw his wealth and position crumble. From Petrograd to New York and a minor, tho important, job as the burgomaster in the Reinhardt production, was a slow step, but one which Volotskoy was forced to take.

A similar destiny was that of Captain Boris Sergievsky. Once he was the head of a Russian Army aviation corps. Once his coat glistened with medals—the St. George Cross and other jeweled insignia. For the Captain, who also served with the British Royal Air Forces, did valiant deeds during the World War. Civil strife in Russia found him actively engaged, and later he became a flying instructor in England, where he remained till the lure of America got into his blood.

There were other patrician and pathetic figures in the "extra" list of "The Miracle." General Nikolaieff, who had threaded his way from the Crimea to the Land of Liberty after terrible experiences in Russia, was a typical one. Yet despite a year in a German prison camp and hair-raising escapes from the Bolshevists, the General maintained a congenial whole-heartedness during the run of "The Miracle," which made him esteemed by all his fellow-workers.

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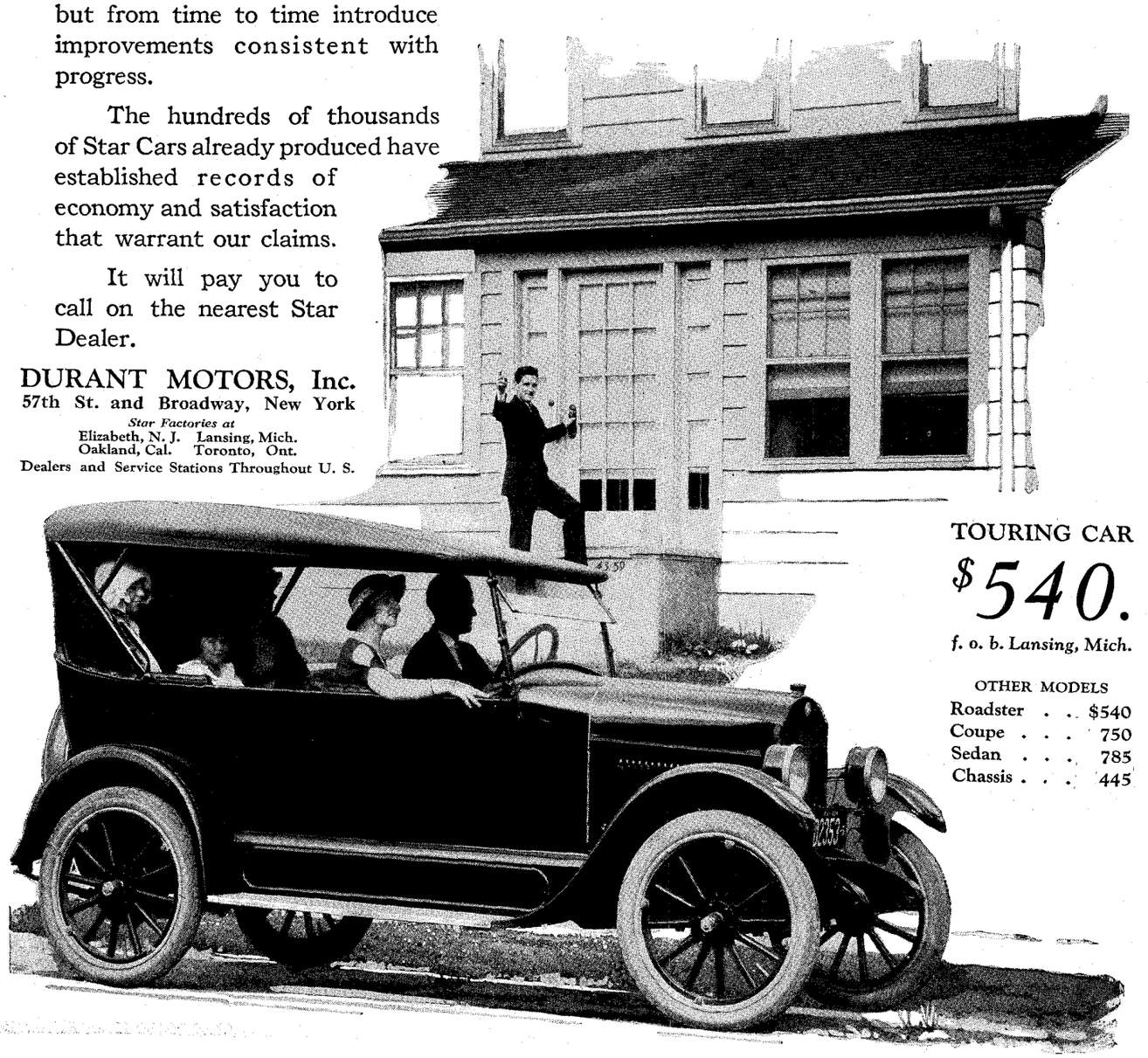

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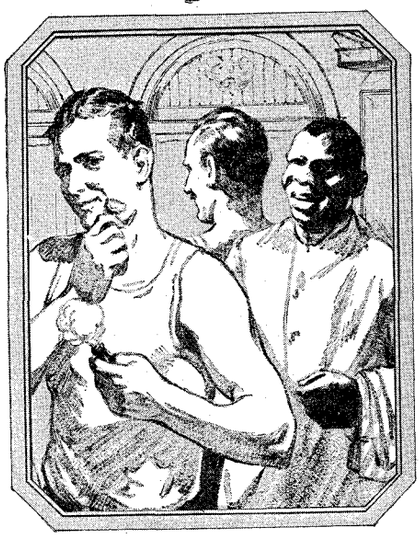

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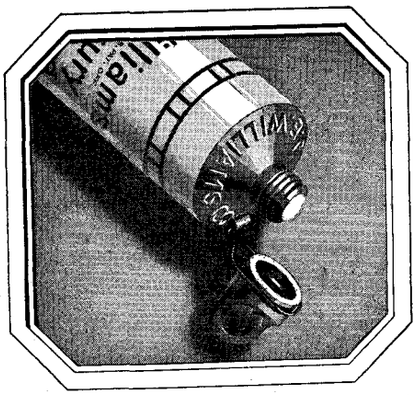

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SPORTS ▾ AND ▾ ATHLETICS

THE MAN WHO MIGHT RIVAL "BABE" RUTH

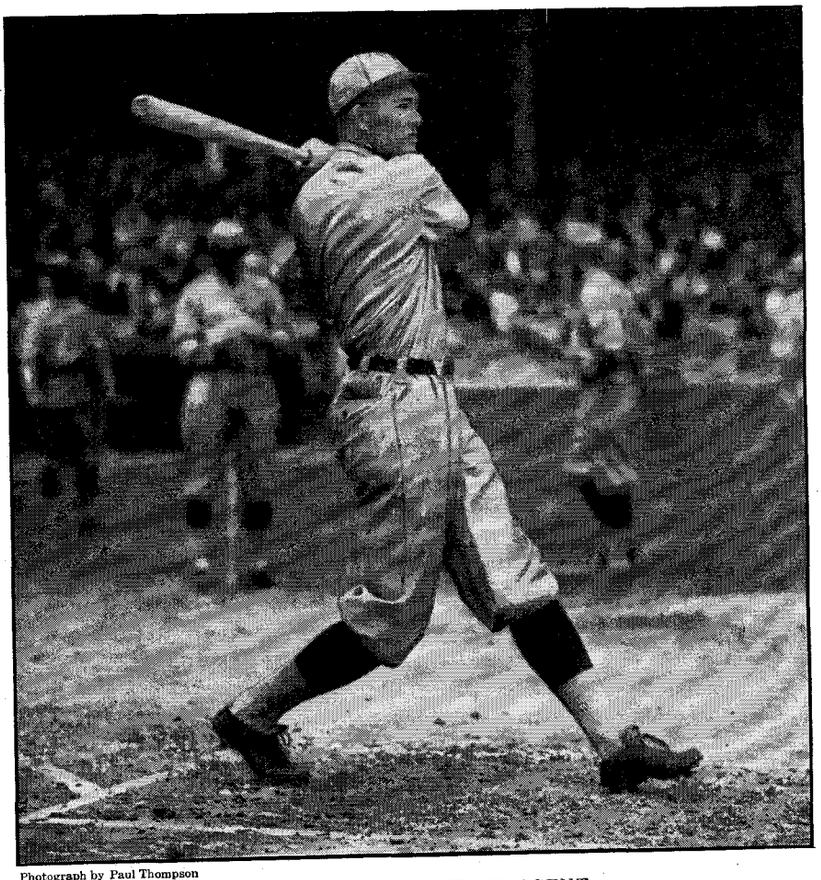
"BABE RUTH is a product of baseball press-agenting carried to its ultimate climax. Rogers Hornsby is a melancholy example of press-agenting that lay down on the job." So, at least, believes F. C. Lane, baseball expert and regular contributor to *The Baseball Magazine* (New York). There is no reflection in this on the American League or upon Babe Ruth, adds Mr. Lane. Both are to be commended for making the most of a golden opportunity, and as for the redoubtable Babe, he, "more than any other one man, helped to put baseball on the map after the war." The National League, on the other hand, is blamed for failure to make the most of its "superstar." As for the value of the superstar, properly advertised, observes Mr. Lane:

Such an individual is worth more to his owner than a pennant-winning ball club. For, after all, a pennant is a transient thing, and while it brings a brief glow of satisfaction and popularity and profit, it leaves behind an aftermath of ills—a padded salary list, dissatisfied players, a public surfeited with victory. A superstar, however, will always serve as the nucleus of a new winning ball club, while he is a potent drawing-card even with a losing team.

Just what, asks the critic, playing ability aside, are Ruth's advantages over Hornsby? Man to man, taking all departments of the game and calling upon the records of recent years, Mr. Lane believes that Hornsby matches up in playing ability with baseball's most famous character. But playing ability, he admits, in itself does not make a drawing-card. As for the matters that have made Babe Ruth important in this connection, he writes:

First of all, there is the matter of geography. Ruth is a big star in a big town. Hornsby, on the remote outskirts of the Major Leagues, with a losing club, attracts comparatively little attention. This is unfortunate for Hornsby, is it not? It is. But he might long ago have overcome that handicap had he resorted to Ruth's tactics. The Babe was not always a star in a big town. He was the property of the Boston Red Sox, with a three-year contract. But he announced that he would not play any longer for his agreed salary, and before the storm was over, the Red Sox, to avoid trouble, sold him at a record figure to the New York Club.

Under somewhat similar circumstances



Photograph by Paul Thompson

WANTED—A GOOD PRESS AGENT

That, in the opinion of a leading baseball writer, is about all that is needed to make Mr Hornsby shine with many of the glories of the great King of Swat.

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what did Rogers Hornsby do? John McGraw, wishing to secure a star to offset Babe Ruth's huge popularity, offered more than double the figure that had brought Ruth to New York. But the Cardinal Club refused the offer. Rogers Hornsby, had he cared to do so, might have announced that he, too, was dissatisfied, that he would no longer play with the Cardinals. He might have laid down on the job and made it imperative to trade or sell him. But altho the chance to come to the Giants would have added immeasurably to his reputation and to his salary, and he knew it, Hornsby played fair with his employers and with the St. Louis public. He did his best work for the salary that was paid him, and he has not failed to do his best work ever since. So when you mention the geography of the case, do not overlook the fact that the same procedure which brought Ruth to New York would have landed Rogers Hornsby there also.

Besides geography, there is the matter of color to consider in a ballplayer. People say that Hornsby lacks color. Hornsby himself has some comments on that point. He says, "I have been told that I lack color. I do not fight with umpires, and I am not going to. I don't run wild on the bases, spiking other players. If I have to play dirty baseball, I prefer to play none at all. Color in the popular eye seems to consist of just such things. I go along, minding my own business, doing my best work, and if my work won't speak for me, I will have to go without."

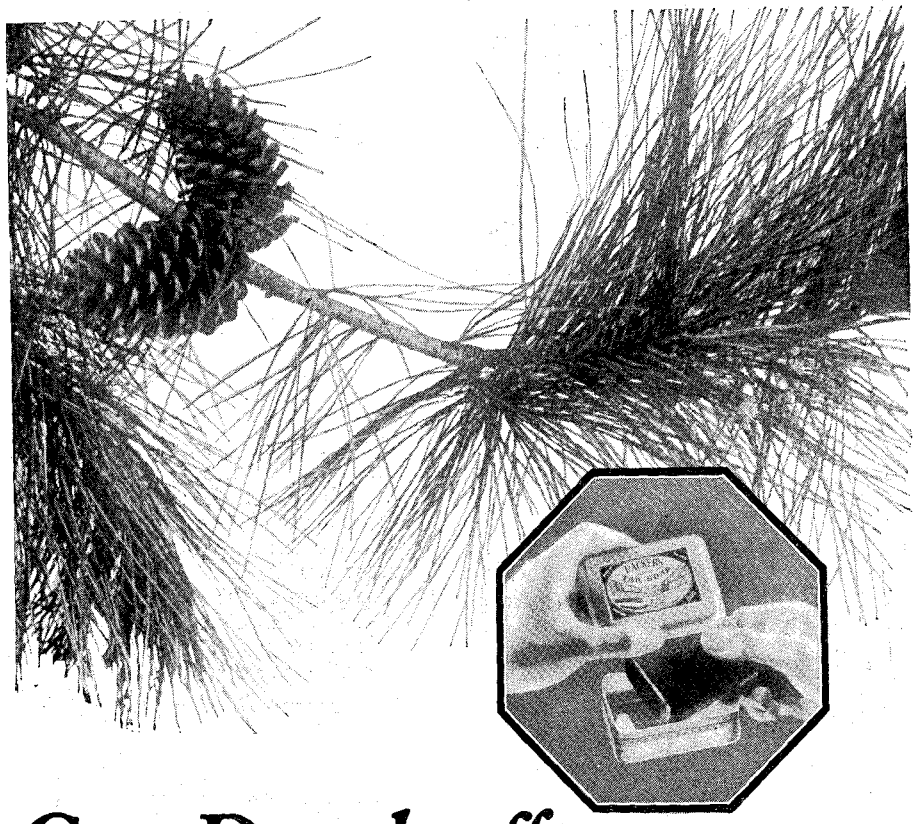
What Hornsby says is largely true. Ruth has ever been something of a managerial problem. His biggest break came with his defiance of Judge Landis, which set him down for a long suspension. Hornsby has never been a trouble-maker at any stage of his career.

As for the baseball abilities of the two superstars, continues Mr. Lane:

Babe's pull at the box-office is probably at least three times as great as Hornsby's. Incidentally, that's just about the ratio between their salaries. Babe's record-breaking wage of fifty-two thousand dollars per year exceeds Rogers Hornsby's seventeen thousand five hundred dollars by just about the percentage whereby Babe's all-round publicity excels that of the Cardinal star. In view of all this, is it possible to contrast Hornsby's merits as a player with those of Ruth? Frankly, we think it is.

Babe Ruth broke into professional baseball as a left-handed pitcher, and he was a good one. Had he remained a pitcher he would doubtless have proved one of baseball's best. But his powers as a batter were too great and he was switched to the outfield. Now Babe is a good outfielder, but nothing more. The New York writers ever and anon come forth with some flamboyant claims that Ruth is a wonderful ballplayer as well as a great slugger. This is merely a waste of good ink. Ruth understands baseball thoroughly. He is a natural ballplayer. He rarely or never makes mistakes on the ball field. So far so good. But outside his single specialty of slugging the ball, it is a question if he could retain a job on a Major League ball club in any capacity other than that of pitcher. As outfielder he has a great throwing arm, but his huge bulk makes it quite impossible for him to cover ground rapidly. On the bases Ruth does very well, considering his bulk, but his bulk is plainly to be considered.

And now for Ruth's specialty. He can



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SPORTS AND ATHLETICS
Continued

hit the baseball harder than any other player who ever lived. This ability has given Ruth a good batting average, altho he has never led his league. It has enabled him to drive in a great total of runs. It has made him a powerful asset to his ball club. But above all, it has resulted in his quite unique ability to hit home-runs.

The maximum distance to which a baseball can be driven depends upon its elevation. Ruth unconsciously approaches nearer to the right elevation for this maximum distance than perhaps any other batter. Many, if not most of the home-runs which have made him famous, have been monstrous flies that went so far that they cleared the barriers of the ball park. In other words, Babe's peculiar talent has just fitted the circumscribed ball parks of the Major Leagues, and coupled with his enormous strength, has served to produce a huge crop of homers.

Is this peculiarity of Ruth's an indication of unusual batting ability? Frankly it is not. His system would be criticized in most batters. Babe does, in fact, the very thing that most batters try to avoid doing, that is, he hits into the air. Most good batters try to hit the ball on the nose and drive it on a line or on the ground. Where they hit into the air they are liable to be retired by an outfielder. But Babe hits the ball so hard that even when it goes into the air it often has the carrying distance necessary and lands beyond the fence. In short, that very thing which would be called a defect in most batters has been a potent factor in Babe's success.

Hornsby will never challenge Babe Ruth's supremacy as a home-run hitter, admits the writer, "because Rogers Hornsby's style is as near to perfection of hitting as the diamond now affords." Specifically:

Hornsby meets the ball fairly and drives it on a line. Such hits are not potentially homers ordinarily. They are often good for doubles and triples, but the home-run is usually a fly ball.

Nevertheless, line hitter that he is, Rogers Hornsby made forty-two home-runs in 1922. This number can be favorably compared with Ruth's best record. It is a greater number of home-runs than Ruth made last season.

To be sure forty-two homers is considerably less than the fifty-nine whereby Ruth hung up a record for all time. But taking into consideration the wide difference in their batting styles, it is at least a matter open to argument whether Hornsby's forty-two homers were not as brilliant an exploit as Ruth's fifty-nine.

Rogers Hornsby is not Ruth's equal in size or weight by at least forty pounds. Compared with Ruth's enormous bat, Hornsby swings a moderate war club. But the terrific force with which Hornsby hits the ball is at least comparable to that of Ruth's, admitting that the Yankee outfielder can drive a ball with greater speed than any other player who ever lived.

Hornsby is a more consistent hitter than Babe Ruth. The Babe's average has bobbed around from under .300 to last season's high, .393. Hornsby, since he has struck his stride, has been consistently in the neighborhood of a .400 hitter. Furthermore, he usually begins at about that pace and maintains it with few slumps to the close of the season. Day in and day out Hornsby exerts a batting pressure on opposing pitching staffs of approximately .400.

Hornsby is a deadly hitter; Ruth a ponderous slugger. And yet, in slugging, his peculiar specialty, Ruth does not exactly run away from Hornsby.

Take their comparative records, for example. We have already contrasted Hornsby's forty-two homers with Ruth's fifty-nine. Hornsby leads his league in the number of extra base hits for a season, 102. Ruth's greatest record in this respect was 119. Ruth piled up 457 total bases in his best year. That is only seven better than Hornsby's 450 in his best year. Ruth leads his league in the number of runs batted in, 170. Hornsby also leads his league in this respect with 152. It is freely admitted that Ruth hits harder than any other batter, and moreover that the peculiar elevation of his hits results in a record crop of home-runs. But even as a slugger Ruth is merely better than Hornsby. He is not so much better that there is no comparison. On the contrary Hornsby's work compares very favorably with Ruth's even in the latter's peculiar specialty.

Besides, while Hornsby does not carry quite the T N T touch that Ruth's lustier bat produces, he is a steadier, naturally better hitter than Ruth. Last year, for example, Ruth struck out 93 times. Hornsby struck out 29. But that comparison is not fair to Ruth. Hornsby was out part of the season. Turn over a leaf to the previous year and we find that Hornsby struck out 50 times. That was an abbreviated season for Ruth due to Landis's suspension. Nevertheless, he struck out 80 times. On the whole Ruth will strike out twice as frequently as Hornsby. Hornsby is the truer, steadier hitter. Pitchers can not cross him so easily. In fact, there is much evidence that Hornsby is the best hitter now in a baseball uniform.

But hitting is not everything. In fielding there is no comparison between the value of the two men. It is all Hornsby. Ruth fills an outfield position with credit to himself, but nothing more. Hornsby has played every infield position on the Cardinal Club, and he has played them well. He is naturally a fielder whose talents are only less than his abilities as a batter.

On the bases Babe at best is fair. Hornsby is the fastest base runner in the National League.

In all probability, opines Mr. Lane, Ruth has seen his best season. Hornsby, on the other hand is only 28 years old, and, argues the writer:

It is reasonable, in fact highly probable, that his masterpiece is yet unwritten in the records that his best season is still to come.

Hornsby's failure to rival Ruth as a drawing-card has reacted against him not only in salary, but in other conspicuous ways. Ruth's enormous free advertising has brought him numerous other sources of income. In fact, three seasons ago when Ruth had a business manager, this manager assured me that Ruth would take in that year from various sources, aside from his salary, a sum in excess of fifty thousand dollars. Hornsby also makes money aside from his salary as a ball-player, but he works for it by selling life insurance in the winter, and he earns all that he gets.

A superstar is the rarest, most valuable find in baseball. In Rogers Hornsby the National League possesses such a superstar, one who compares very favorably with the American League's headliner, Babe Ruth.

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Springfield, Missouri

"EAT LESS AND FIGHT BETTER"

TAKE a tip from the lower animals, advises Dr. W. A. Evans, who is responsible for a good deal of newspaper and magazine advice on health. If you would use your muscles and brains to the best effect, don't eat before exertion. Athletes and athletic trainers follow this rule, and their opinion, says Dr. Evans, accords with that of all men who train animals for competition. He specifies, writing in *Liberty* (New York):

Race-horse trainers do not feed for several hours before a race. After the race the horse is sponged, cooled down, walked and then, after being quieted and cooled, is given a fair meal.

Soon after his pack jumps a fox an old fox-hunter can tell whether the fox has fed or not by the way he runs. When a fox gets up in the late afternoon he satisfies his thirst and then starts out on his hunt for food. After killing, he eats and then lies down for a lazy spell, after which he may travel again before he lies up for the day. How he will run when jumped depends on whether he has eaten.

All wild animals have the same general habit. Lions, tigers, wolves—all hunt, kill, lie, and sleep. Grass-eating animals are still more torpid after they have eaten.

Prize-fighters not only eat very little before they fight, but they go a step further. They drink almost no water for several days before a fight. This process they call "drying out." In some cases drying out is done as a means of making weight; that is, losing enough weight to come below the deadline when weighing-in time comes. Some dry out because they think it increases endurance.

The animals learned early in the course of their racial lives that they must be efficient else they would die from starvation or perish in combat. Therefore they have the instinctive habit of avoiding trouble when they have a bellyful.

There is basic difference between instinctive behavior and that which humans develop as the result of experience, memory, and judgment. If this particular behavior reaction is almost universal among animals competing for food and athletes competing for prizes, it must be based on physiologic principles.

We have always seemed to know, instinctively, perhaps, that many things were crowded in the "pit of the stomach," and that, when we loaded anything extra in there, it somehow caused a pressure which made us short-winded.

A few years ago Morgulis wrote a very scientific book on hunger and fasting. He gathered together facts from a great many sources. He proved that an animal is at its best when it is in the earlier stage of starvation. The period he had reference to is that in which all the nutrition elements in the blood on the way to tissue-building have been used up and the stored excesses in the body have been moderately drawn on. The cells of the body have used up any stored excess within themselves, and have drawn on the reserves elsewhere until the sides of these warehouses are no longer bursting.

On the other hand, the point has not been reached where the stores have been completely exhausted, and certainly the unsatisfied hunger-point of the cells themselves is not at hand. The stage is one of what might be termed physiologic cleanness.

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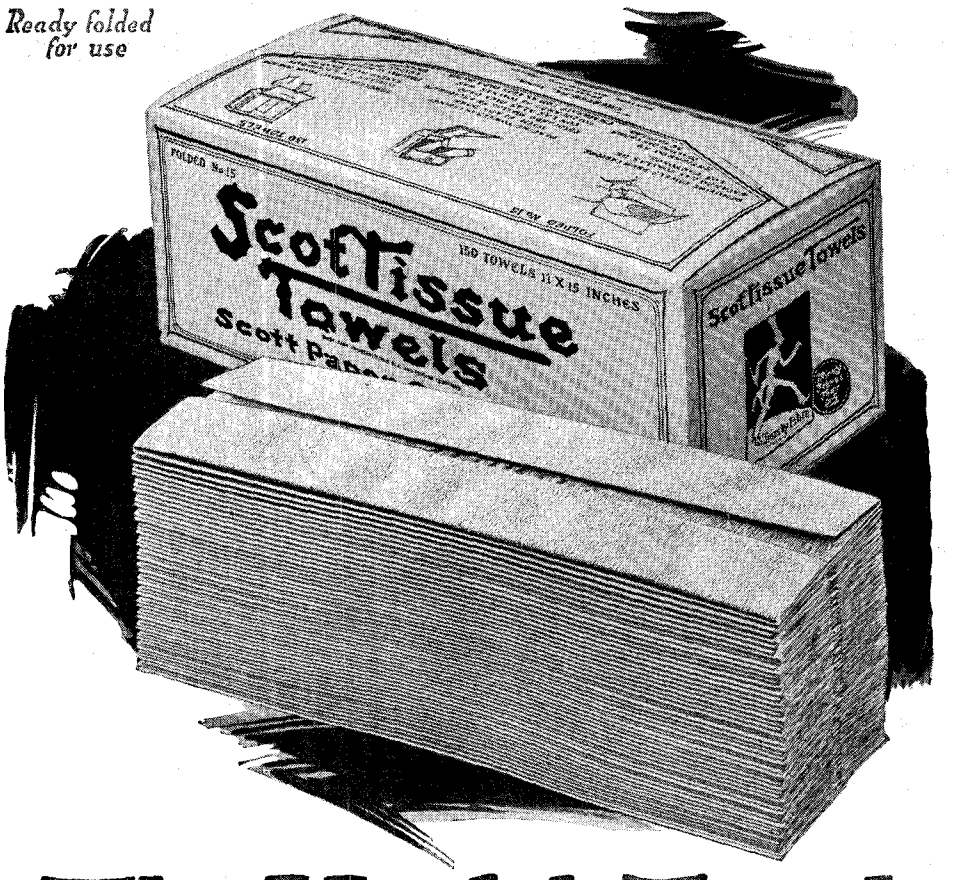

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INVESTMENTS-AND-FINANCE

THE "DYNAMITE" METHOD OF SELLING STOCKS

BEWARE OF THE "DYNAMITER!" Not the skulking, bearded anarchist, with a stick of the explosive in his hand, but the high-pressure security salesman; the "shock troops" of doubtful stock-selling campaigns. John M. Robertson, writing in *The Dearborn Independent*, tells us whence these stock salesmen come, how they are recruited and drilled, and where their headquarters are. Incidentally, says Mr. Robertson, ten thousand of them have been driven from Ohio in the last year and a half. According to his article:

Chicago is the metropolis of this class and of the promoters who train and employ them. The rendezvous of principals and agents in the traffic is a flashy "loop" district hotel.

High-pressure selling talent gravitates to Chicago after the conclusion of field engagements for two reasons: Salesmen are more certain of obtaining another job in Chicago than anywhere else, and promoters there follow the amiable custom of advancing known "producers" funds with which to keep body and soul together while waiting for something to turn up.

The successful "dynamiter," as these salesmen have come to be termed, can earn from two hundred to a thousand dollars a week when handling a good selling issue of stock, but being free-and-easy spenders they often need financial assistance between engagements.

Several months ago an American promoter was engaged to market several million dollars of stocks for a Canadian undertaking. Through the Chicago plan he was able almost instantly to dispatch one hundred and fifty dynamiters to the unfortunate community selected to hold the bag.

High-pressure salesmen under such conditions are always sent out into the field with a one-way ticket and no expense money. They have to produce instantly if they are to live.

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THE RAINY DAY COMES
—McCay in the New York *American*.

High-pressure stock salesmen are recruited through classes in inspirational selling, conducted by those who organize big campaigns. Every quick selling and closing plan that has a "kick" in it is drawn upon by the faculties of these "schools." The stock-selling outfit that desires to recruit sales material through this channel advertises for students, offering a free course under a highly touted "sales authority."

The students are placed under the spell of the chief lecturer and his aides, who first sell these credulous souls the promoter's organization and its present proposition and then convert them into zealots. The more destitute of culture and finance the students are, the better. They don't hesitate about anything they are instructed to say and do.

The supreme object of the training is to fit the graduates to sell their prospects on the first call. Toward the end of the course when the best material has been selected and the rest weeded out, the class is given a tryout in the field. Money and jewelry prizes and banquets, where much "apple-sauce" is dispensed by the principals, make the outlook seem rosy to the newcomers.

After his second or third high-pressure campaign our inspirational salesman is usually disillusioned and fairly launched upon the primrose path. He soon becomes a hardened dynamiter clamoring for opportunities to gather in the commissions.

Women are said to respond more completely to inspirational selling school methods than men.

Many enterprising men who are endeavoring to develop valuable new processes or products are forced in desperation to turn to the "high-binder" organizations that have been mentioned. These involuntary clients must pay heavy underwriting discounts, give stock bonuses and promise investors unreasonable dividends at the outset.

The country needs rigidly enforced penal laws and bonding requirements that will eliminate the reckless dynamiter and the dishonest promoter who puts him into the field. It equally requires more certain detection and punishment of the fake business concerns that conspire with these selling agencies to place worthless stocks.

WHAT GERMANY HAS PAID

AS THE PLANS for putting the Dawes plan into operation are being perfected, it is of interest to find some recent official figures showing how much Germany has paid in reparations since the Treaty of Versailles went into effect. According to Edwin L. James, Paris correspondent of the New York *Times*, who quotes an official statement of the Reparations Commission, Germany has paid in almost five years 5,570,942,000 gold marks. Continues Mr. James:

With the deduction made for the cost of the Army of Occupation and the Spa loan, there remains a balance of 2,540,287,000 marks.

Credited to Germany for the value of material seized and turned over is the sum of 2,834,990,000 marks, bringing the total credit of Germany to 8,405,932,000 marks, or $2,101,483,000.

Of the 5,500,000,000 paid by Germany 1,000,900,000 represents total cash payments, or considerably less, it is said, than Germany realized from the sale of paper marks in the United States alone.

Of the cash paid England received 641,000,000, France 144,000,000, Belgium 1,084,000,000, the rest being scattered among the other allies. Of 3,300,000,000 in deliveries in kind France received 1,278,000,000. The total amount received by France in cash payments and deliveries in kind thus stands at 1,724,000,000 gold marks. After deduction of France's part in the Spa loan and the cost of the French Army of Occupation there is left for France for reparations for the first five years of the working of the peace treaty the sum of 101,874,000 gold marks, or the equivalent of half a billion paper francs, against which France has expended 100,000,000 paper francs.

According to calculations here the total payments by Germany in cash and kind represent a sum no larger than what was supposed to have been realized from the export of paper marks. The total, including property seized from Germany at the end of the war, which embraces 2,000,000,000 marks on account of Poland, represents a sum about equal to what the McKenn Experts' Committee estimated to be the value of German wealth held abroad.

The Reparations Commission's figures do not include the value of seizures in the Ruhr. This account is kept by the French and Belgians separately because of the English refusal to recognize the Ruhr occupation. It is generally estimated that there has been a profit of 600,000,000 gold marks, which would, therefore, bring the total of German payments up to slightly more than 6,000,000,000 marks.

Six billion marks in five years represents 1,200,000,000 marks yearly. It is interesting to compare this figure with the calculation by the Dawes committee that Germany should pay a minimum of 2,500,000,000 francs a year in reparations.

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CURRENT EVENTS

FOREIGN

August 7.—Two Americans are reported slain in a new revolt in Honduras.

August 9.—The Allies and Germany sign the first of the three protocols necessary to give effect to the Dawes Plan.

An earthquake kills 41 persons, and destroys 3,100 houses in the province of Ferghana, Russia, according to official reports from Moscow.

Seventy-three persons are killed and approximately 3,000 houses destroyed, reports Tokyo, in the overflowing of the Tamsui River in northern Taiwan.

Hundreds of villages in northern China are suffering from floods, reports Peking.

August 10.—The French and Germans agree, reports Paris, that the League of Nations shall take over the Inter-allied Military Control Board's work. This places the responsibility for Germany's obedience to the Allies' demands for disarmament in the League of Nations.

The American Round-the-World flyers announce from Iceland that the flight will be resumed as soon as ice conditions permit.

August 11.—The Germans and the French, according to a report from London, are settling final details in connection with France's evacuation of the Ruhr. The evacuation is planned to be complete by January 10.

The Italian Communists, reports Rome, are holding demonstrations in the city.

DOMESTIC

August 6.—The fund of $100,000 appropriated by Congress to defray the expenses of the naval oil lease investigations has been exhausted. It was intimated at the White House that a bill would be introduced at the December session to appropriate more money.

Samuel Gompers, head of the American Federation of Labor, disputes the labor record of John W. Davis, and denies that he was instrumental in the passage of the Clayton Act or in preventing the war-time railroad strike through obtaining a decision in the Supreme Court.

Victorious Olympic team lands in New York and marches up Broadway escorted by troops, bands and prominent citizens, and is cheered by thousands.

August 7.—Semi-official announcement is made of the consolidation of the Nickel Plate, Chesapeake and Ohio, Hocking Valley, Père Marquette, and Erie into a single railroad system, with total assets of $1,500,000,000 and a total trackage of 14,357 miles. This undertaking is being engineered by the Van Sweringen interests of Cleveland, supported by the First National Bank and J. P. Morgan and Company.

August 8.—First successful test of mooring the *Shenandoah* to a ship's mast is carried out on the U. S. S. *Patokah* in Naragansett Bay.

Senator La Follette came out definitely against the Ku Klux Klan by name in a letter made public to-day.

August 9.—At the Institute of Politics at Williamstown, Rear-Adm. W. L. Rogers

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CURRENT EVENTS
Continued

predicts a war of aggression by the United States when our population shall have grown to 200,000,000.

August 11.—John W. Davis formally accepts the Democratic nomination for President at Clarksburg, West Virginia, in a speech which makes Republican "corruption" the main campaign issue.

August 12.—The Government decides to add 20 torpedo-boat destroyers, 2 mine sweepers and several hundred patrol and picket boats to the fleet that guards our shores against rum-runners.

BOY BABIES AND YOUNG MOTHERS

IF the mother is young the chances are greater that the baby will be a boy. When the mother is forty or beyond the probability is stronger that it will be a girl. This is the conclusion of Dr. A. S. Parkes, based on the record of over eight thousand births at a hospital in Manchester, England, we read in Science Service's *Daily Science News Bulletin* (Washington). To quote further:

Mothers averaging around fifteen years of age bore children in the ratio of 163 males to every 100 females. Mothers about twenty years of age had 120 male to every 100 female children. Mothers who were about thirty years old bore 112 boys to every 100 girls. Those about forty years of age had 91 male children to 100 female; and the ratio decreased still more for still older women. Dr. Parkes is careful to point out that his facts do not necessarily conflict with recent scientific ideas of sex-determination. These modern ideas teach that among the higher animals, including man, the female exercises no influence on the sex of the offspring since egg-cells are all alike. The male parent, however, forms germ-cells of two kinds in equal numbers and maleness or femaleness of progeny depends upon which of these two kinds of cells happens to fertilize any egg. The decision as to sex is irrevocably made at fertilization and Dr. Parkes's statistics are for a subsequent event, i. e., birth. Between these two events a dying-off of the unborn has been noted which for some unexplained reason affects males more than females. This early dying-off increases with the age of the mother. "So science would naturally expect sons to be less frequent, on the average, in older households."

Seasonable Song.—Same old beach, same old peach, with the same old hopeful smile; same old sand, same old band, same old putters-on of style; same old walks, same old talks, same old spooning on the stairs; same old drones, chaperones, in the same old rocking-chairs; same old view, nothing new, same old slot machine to beat; same canned food, boiled or stewed, same transparent slice of meat; same old moons, same old tunes, same old croquet on the lawn; same old sail, same old gale, same old wish you hadn't gone; same old junk, same old bunk, same old stunt and nothing more; same price list, same bridge whist, same old never-ending bore.—*B. E., Boston Transcript.*

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THE LEXICOGRAPHER'S EASY CHAIR

To decide questions concerning the correct use of words for this column, the Funk & Wagnalls New Standard Dictionary is consulted as arbiter.

Readers will please bear in mind that no notice will be taken of anonymous communications.

belief, credit, faith, trust—"J. G. D.," Mexico City, Mex.—*Belief* is derived from the Anglo-Saxon *geleafa*, and is defined as the acceptance of something as true; also, the thing which is believed. *Faith* is from the Latin *fides*, and designates a firm belief based on the reputation for truth or veracity, and the trustworthiness of a person making a statement. *Trust*, connected with the Anglo-Saxon *treowe*, true, designates confidence in the reliability of persons or things, as in the acceptance of their own value or estimate without investigation by the person accepting them. It connotes a confident reliance on the integrity, veracity, and justice of another.

Belief is a generic term; *faith* and *trust* are specific. One *believes* another whom he credits and trusts; *belief*, however, does not depend upon any particular person or thing. *Trust* depends upon the authority of some person or persons. *Credit*, from Latin *credo*, believe, is belief in the sincerity of a person or in the truth of a statement made by him or her. *Faith* and *trust* are dispositions of the mind. Statements are open to *belief*, persons are entitled to *credit*. *Belief*, *faith*, and *trust* also have a religious sense, in which *belief* is an act of the understanding; *faith* and *trust*, an act of the heart as moved by the mind. *Belief* is to *trust* and *faith* as cause to effect. There can be no *faith*, no *trust* without *belief*. The Christian *believes* that there is a God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind. Therefore, he *trusts* in Him for protection. There are no disappointments more severe than those which we feel on finding that we have misplaced our *trust*. The following citations show literary usage.

"Oh! I've heard him talk
Like the first-born child of love, when every word
Spoke in his eyes, and wept to be *believ'd*."
—Southern.

"For *faith* repos'd on seas and on the flat'ring sky,
Thy naked corpse is doom'd on shores unknown."
—Dryden.

"Capricious man! To good or ill inconstant,
Too much to fear or *trust* is equal weakness."
—Johnson.

Minnehaha—"O. T.," Hot Springs, S. D.—If you will step into the Public Library of your town, take down Bulletin No. 30, Part I, of the "Handbook of American Indians," issued by the Bureau of American Ethnology, and turn to page 869 of that work, you will find the following statement: "*Minnehaha* of the song is the poet's own creation. Some of the elements of her creation, such as nationality and name, were suggested from a book called 'Life and Legends of the Sioux,' by Mrs. Mary Eastman, New York, 1840. . . . The name *Minnehaha* is first met with in Mrs. Eastman's book. In the Introduction she makes the statement that between Fort Snelling and the Falls of St. Anthony are the Little Falls, forty feet in height, on a stream that empties into the Mississippi. The Indians called them 'Minnehaha' or 'Laughing Waters.' This is plainly the source of the heroine's name. The name *Minnehaha* is taken from the Teton dialect of the Dakota language. It is a compound, the first part of which is *mini* and means 'water.' *Mini* occupies initial place in composition, as, *minito*, blue water, *minisapa*, black water. . . . The rendering of *Minnehaha* as 'Laughing Water' is explained as follows: The verb *to laugh* is *iha; to laugh at* is *ihaha;* and the noun *laughter* is *haha*. Hence, *Minnehaha* is literally 'water laughter.'" Stephen Return Riggs in his "Dakota English Dictionary" describes *haha* in compounds as designating a "cascade; a cataract," etc. Hence, *Minnehaha* would signify "waterfall."

"H. H.," New York City.—The name *Joshua* is correctly pronounced *josh'yu-a*—*o* as in *not*, *sh* as in ship, *yu* pronounced as *you*, *a* as in *final*. The pronunciation *josh'yu-e*—*e* as in *they*—is a provincial one. The spelling *Josue* used in the Douai Bible is pronounced *jos'u-e* or *jos'u-i*—*e* as in *they* and *i* as in *police*.

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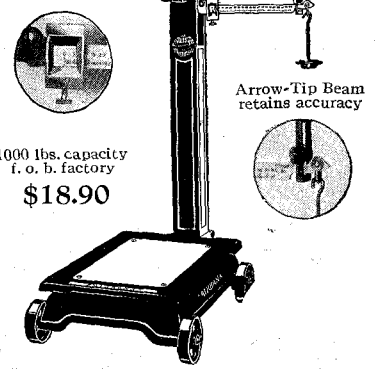

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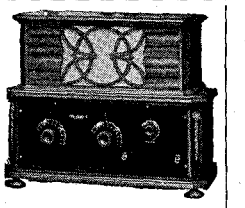

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THE · SPICE · OF · LIFE

Job for Somebody.—THE SKIPPER—"This boat makes fifteen knots an hour."

THE GIRL—"Who unties them?"—*Life.*

That Kind of Hoss.—FOR SALE—One halter, 1 collar, and a dang good mare thrown in.—*Classified ad in The Santa Rosa (Calif.) Press-Democrat.*

Spare the Club.—PERT YOUNG THING—"Don't you think there should be more clubs for women?"

GRUMPY OLD THING—"Oh, no! I should be inclined to try kindness first."—*London Opinion.*

Statistics

Killed by Gas 1923
32 Inhaled It
140 Lighted Matches in It
5,000 Stept on it.
—*En-Ar-Co National News.*

No Chance. — "After the wreck, when your husband was drowning, did all his past sins come up before him?"

"Good heavens, no! He wasn't in the water all that time!"—*London Mail.*

Too Cheap. — RASTUS — "Here's dat quatah ah borrowed from yuh last year."

SAMBO—"Yuh done kept it so long dat ah don't know if it's wuff while for me to change mah 'pinion of yuh jes' fo' two bits."—*Life.*

Diplomatic.—SUE—"I can't help it if I'm not perfect. There's only been one perfect little girl."

MOTHER—"Oh! And who was that?"

SUE—"You, mummy, when you wus little."—*Sydney Bulletin.*

A Masterpiece.—Mrs. Brown was almost speechless as she beheld the Grand Canyon.

"Isn't it wonderful?" she gushed.

"I'll say so," responded Mr. Brown, who mixed contracting with politics. "Boy, that was SOME excavating job."—*New York American.*

Safety First.—"What precautions do you take against microbes?"

"First, I boil the water—"

"Yes, and then?"

"Then I sterilize it—"

"That's right, and then?"

"I drink nothing but beer."—*Sans Gene (Paris).*

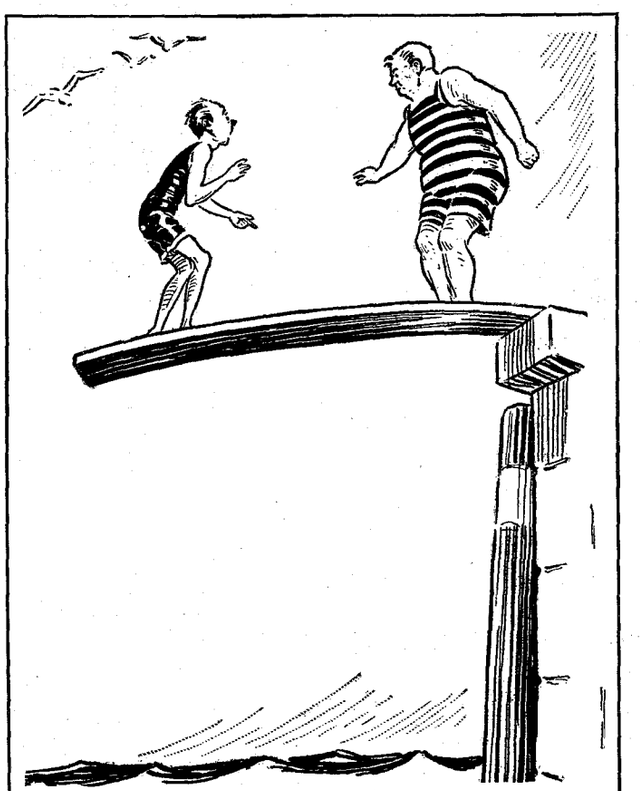
Safe.—A bright little girl, aged four, and her brother, aged six, were spending the night with their aunt. When bedtime came the aunt asked them how they said their prayers. The little girl answered: "Sometimes I say them on muddy's knees and sometimes to the side of the bed."

"And how about you, little boy?" asked the aunt.

"Oh, I don't need to pray. I sleep with daddy."—*Everybody's Magazine.*

Please Don't Crowd.—DESIRABLE GENTLEMAN of means, wishes marriage to lady who (through accident) lost one limb below knee. Box 1132, Sparks, Nevada.—*Classified ad in The Household Journal.*

Zoological.—The Paris police have arrested a man named Moles, who had become engaged to fifty different girls. When he comes out of prison he had better adopt the habits of namesake and burrow.—*London Humorist.*



PERCY (who has changed his mind): "Oh, er—er—so silly of me—I've forgotten my handkerchief!" —*The London Humorist.*

Interesting Point.—The prisoner had been convicted a dozen times before.

"Your honor," he said, "I should like to have my case postponed for a week. My lawyer is ill."

"But you were captured with your hand in this man's pocket. What can your counsel say in your defense?"

"Precisely so, your honor. That is what I am anxious to know."—*Detroit Free Press.*

Prepared for the Worst.—Jones had found a slip of paper on his lawn. It was an accurate and detailed plan of his private office. The exact position of the stairs was noted. Notes showed which doors swung in and which swung out. Even the windows were set down. Jones was alarmed.

"Some burglar must be going to raid my office," he told his family.

"Oh, that isn't it," cried his daughter, glancing at the sketch. "Those notes are in Jack's handwriting. He's coming down to your office to ask you to let him marry me."—*Tit Bits (London).*

Ready to Go.—"I wonder how our candidate will pan out as campaigner."

"He'll be all right. He films well and has a fine voice for broadcasting."—*Life.*

Happy Thought.—Her (Wisdom's) ways are ways of pleasantries, and all her paths are peace.—Prov. 3:17.—*The Bible as quoted by The Meadville (Penna.) Tribune-Republican.*

His Recreation.—TOURIST—"But what do you do here when you're lonely?"

MOUNTAINEER—"Oh, I shoot at ol' Bill Scroggins down in the valley."—*American Legion Weekly.*

One Hitch.—"Dinah," said the mistress, "I hear you are married."

"Yassum, I'se got a good man now."

"Does he provide for you all right?"

"Yas, he a good provider, but I'se skeered he going to be cotched at it."—*Everybody's Magazine.*

Slight Mistake.—Speaking of railroads, here is this one.

A highbrow traveler at the St. Johnsbury station approached the Portland express, which was made up and ready to start.

"Is this train ready for occupancy?" he asked.

TRAINMAN—"No, sir. This train goes to Concord, Whitefield and Portland."—*The Caledonian Record of St. Johnsbury, Vt.*

Obscuring the Limelight.—"Are you going to broadcast your speeches?"

"I haven't decided," answered Senator Sorghum. "I don't like to divide attention. I've noticed that when a speech is put on the air instead of saying, 'Wasn't it a wonderful speech?' everybody says, 'Isn't radio a wonderful invention?' "—*Washington Star.*

No Time for Poetry.—Sam Lung was busy in one of the great warehouses south of Market St., San Francisco, tugging at a ponderous bale of burlap, when a large motor-truck came backing silently through the door loaded high with more burlap.

Another Chinese, who had been helping Sam, seeing the oncoming truck, stept aside and began in the quaint sing-song of their people to inform him of the danger. "If you do not care to have your bones rest in unholy ground of the white devils for a long spell, then in time taken up and removed to the land of your ancestors, you had better—"

Just then, as the heavily loaded truck was about to smash Sam, his companion finished his warning with the exclamation, "Look ow!" Sam jumped in time to escape being crusht. With a frightened face he exclaimed to his helper, "Wha' for you no talkee Melican first time?"—*Argonaut.*

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